

# The Baptist Record

JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

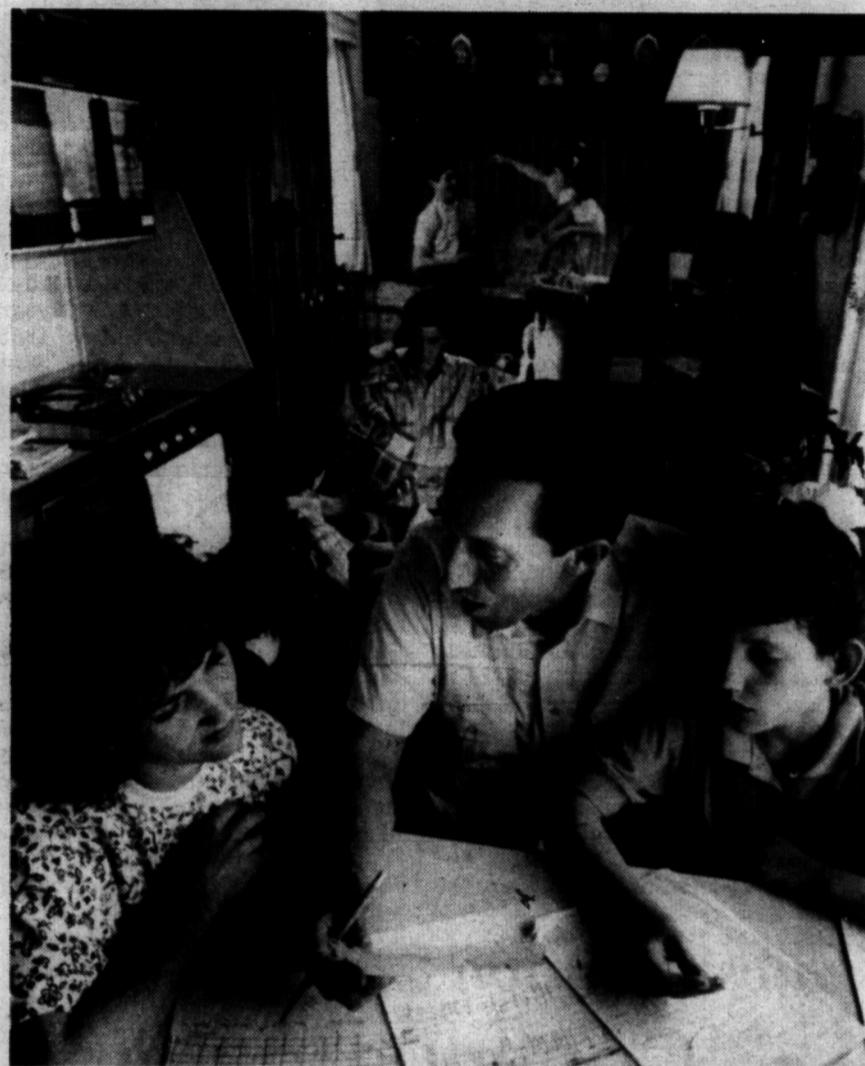
Thursday, May 17, 1990

Published Since 1877

## Singing Celorias move every week . . .



The singing Celorias.



SPARTANBURG, S.C. — Life in a house on wheels means true togetherness for the seven-member Celoria family. From left, Beth, 10; Matt, 14; Alan; Jan; Jon; and Mark, 14, look over musical scores while Jan and Alan discuss his latest composition. Matt and Jon examine their baseball card collection. At the far right is the family dog, Patty. (BP) Photo by Jim Yenaman

**SOUTHERN BAPTIST HISTORICAL LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES  
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Nashville, Tennessee

## Work begins on wing of Bangalore hospital

SPARTANBURG, S.C. (BP) — "Our family is just like yours," Alan Celoria insists. "The only difference is that we move every week."

A full-time music evangelist and recently published composer, Celoria travels all year with his wife, Jan, and five children in a ministry he describes as "a family calling."

While two travel trailers parked side-by-side on church parking lots have constituted home on wheels for several years, Celoria did not set out to be a roving evangelistic singer. In fact, his education and early career days were traditional.

A native Floridian, he earned the bachelor of church music degree at Stetson University in DeLand, Fla., followed by studies at New Orleans Seminary, and at the University of Southern Mississippi.

After a courtship in Hattiesburg, the Celorias were married and spent eight years in which he worked as a minister of music for Temple Church, Hattiesburg; First Church, Roswell, N.M.; and First Church, Winter Park, Fla.

But in August, 1979, he resigned his church job to enter music evangelism. He moved his family to Jackson, to be near Mrs. Celoria's mother and an airport.

"I had nothing on my calendar. Zero," he recalled on a recent Sunday afternoon in his living room on the parking lot of First Church, Spartanburg, S.C. "But that fall I had enough

meetings to provide for our needs, and thereafter my ministry continued to grow and grow."

By 1984, leaving his family at home while he sang for revivals and state evangelism conferences became more difficult. He and his wife had talked of the family's traveling together "some day," but family needs helped set a specific date.

"I came home one day and found our oldest son, Jon, crying in the yard," Mrs. Celoria recalled. "He said, 'When will Daddy be home?' I told him, 'In about a week.' And Jon said, 'But I need him now!'"

Believing "ministry is not a priority above family," Celoria said the family pared down their possessions, left their home in 1985, and began living on the road year-round as "The Celoria Family Singers."

Today, Jon, 16; Matt and Mark, 14; Beth, 10; and Kathy, 8, sing with their parents in a different church almost every week, Sunday through Wednesday or Thursday. Friday is the day they travel to the next church, and Saturday is a day off.

On Sunday afternoons and during the days, Monday through Thursday, the children follow videotaped home schooling programs for their respective grade levels.

Celoria believes the quality of their singing has improved in the five years since their first appearance in a church.

"It was so bad," he laughed. "But to see a family together in a time of

broken homes is a ministry before we even open our mouths."

"Preachers used to ask, 'Why are you bringing your family?' Now they say, 'Don't come unless you bring your family.'"

Celoria writes much of the music he and his family sing, and in May the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board's Genevox Music Group will release a choir book, "Classic Gospel," by Celoria.

David Danner, who arranged and produced the music for Genevox, described Celoria's works as "singable, melodic songs that speak to the hearts of people." The words, he said, are "timely for evangelistic services."

Fes Robertson, manager of Genevox Music Group agreed: "Alan communicates quickly with simple, straightforward songs. His music builds on our long-standing commitment to music that can be used effectively in reaching souls for the Lord."

Celoria said his song writing is inspirational to the point that "sometimes I feel I'm writing the words directly from God."

Songs from the revival collection will be sung by a 700-voice choir in New Orleans during the Conference of Southern Baptist Evangelists, of which Celoria is music director.

"My whole approach to music is to use quality and gospel," Celoria said. "That's why I call it classic gospel."

BANGALORE, India (BP) — Groundbreaking in April signaled the start of construction on a \$400,000 addition to the Bangalore Baptist Hospital, a center of Southern Baptist mission work in India since 1971.

The new wing will add 23 beds to the 100-bed hospital and increase space for treating outpatients. It will be used by private patients paying market rates for treatment, allowing the hospital to continue serving others who are too poor to pay.

The aim of the hospital always has been to provide high-quality medical care to people of all socioeconomic classes and religions, said Southern Baptist missionary Rebekah Naylor, associate medical superintendent of the hospital. The new wing is considered vital for the hospital to achieve financial self-support, she added.

The Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board will pay half of the construction costs. Also contributing to the project are more than 100 churches and individuals, including First Church, Dallas, which gave \$150,000.

Two years ago the Foreign Mission Board signed over management of the hospital to the Christian Medical College in Vellore, India, as visas for Southern Baptist personnel became increasingly difficult to secure. Southern Baptists still own the property, however.

The hospital ministry allowed Southern Baptist missionaries to help start churches in and around the southern state of Karnataka. The churches were organized into the Baptist Convention of Karnataka in 1976.

# Editorials . . . by Don McGregor

## Judge the results

"Conservatives" have gained control of the Board of Trustees of Southern Seminary, and the first meeting under those circumstances was called by many of the trustees the worst they had ever been a part of.

Even though a great deal of the proceedings was carried on behind closed doors, enough information has leaked out to make it known that it was a bad time.

Several professors and the president were attacked, to a great extent about issues that had been taken up by the Peace Committee and evidently considered settled.

Leading the charge was a 25-year-old first-year trustee. He is Jerry Johnson, a pastor in Aurora, Colo. Johnson's concerns were detailed in a 16-page document mailed to the trustees sometime ahead of the meeting. The full text of his material appeared on five pages of the April issue of *The Southern Baptist Advocate*, an independent newspaper with "conservative" orientation.

Seminary President Roy Honeycutt, a Mississippian, received a copy on April 20. The trustees' meeting began on April 23.

Since it has been made public, the document, titled "The Cover-up at Southern Seminary," has caused ripples of consternation to wash across the seminary campus, shock its faculty and administration, and be felt throughout the Southern Baptist Convention. A few years ago, such an attack would have put Southern Baptists throughout the nation in a state of shock. Such activity has become rather commonplace at this time, however; and it remains to be seen just what repercussions will be the result.

The commonality of the matter doesn't excuse it.

It would seem unusual, to say the

least, that a trustee would mail such a document to the other trustees before he had ever attended a business meeting with them. Johnson had attended only a trustee orientation meeting in September and a trustee retreat later in the fall.

The burden of the document was that the seminary and those who had been its trustees at the time had covered up problems that had been addressed by the Peace Committee in its investigation of the seminary. Some of those trustees are still on the board, and some are "conservatives." Several trustees took exception to the material, saying that they had dealt with the circumstances when they had surfaced and they shouldn't be having to deal with them again.

The executive committee of the trustees, before the election of a new committee, had intended to deal with Johnson about the matter; but the trustees took it over to work as a committee of the whole and then put it off until the annual meeting next year.

The most vicious blow from Johnson was his statement, "One would have to be blind not to see that Dr. Honeycutt just does not believe the Bible." This related to statements by Honeycutt in *Broadman Commentary* material on Exodus, Hosea, and I and II Kings.

An account of the trustees' meeting and Honeycutt's reply to the charges are to be found in the *Baptist Record* issue of May 3.

Evidently, Johnson is well read. His lengthy discourse drew from many different sources. There are at least 10 publications cited from across the nation; a number of speeches delivered by the parties involved are mentioned in the material; a detailed reference is made to the drama, "Faustus," by Christopher Marlowe; and there is a reference to a discipline

of the interpretation of law called The Doctrine of the Original Understanding. This doctrine would cause an effort to be made to understand the intent of the original framers of laws or, in this case, the Southern Seminary Abstract of Principles.

One can only wonder how Johnson became familiar with The Doctrine of Original Understanding, which is a legal precept.

Nevertheless, here is a 25-year-old preacher from Aurora, Colo., who has not attended a Southern Baptist seminary, attending his first trustee meeting at Southern Baptists' oldest seminary, and questioning the 63-year-old president of the seminary about his belief in the Bible. The president is a man who has spent 44 years in devotion to the Bible and in an attempt to better understand it and disseminate its message. At best, it seems ludicrous.

Johnson gathered his material from the Atlanta Journal; Word and Way, state paper of Missouri; The Tie, publication of Southern Seminary; The Louisville Courier-Journal; the Baptist Message, state paper of Louisiana; The Charlotte Observer; The Houston Chronicle; SBC Today; the Baptist Courier, state paper of South Carolina; and the Illinois Baptist, state paper of Illinois. Surely to have been a steady reader of all of these publications was a task of some magnitude.

As the *Baptist Record* spoke with Johnson, he asked if there had been an indication that he had asked for Honeycutt's retirement. With an answer in the affirmative, he said such was not the case. Yet a source very close to the situation has noted that Johnson entered the president's office in September, the first time the two had ever met, and announced that if Honeycutt would retire quickly he

would be given a big car and a sizeable retirement benefit. If Honeycutt decided to hold out, it was noted, such would not be the case.

It must be noted at this point that Johnson was put on the Board of Trustees of Southern Seminary by "conservative" efforts. He was sought out and placed there because of his sympathy with the "conservative" methods.

Though the seminary faculty has called for his resignation from the board, there is no reason that he should not have been chosen as a trustee. There are no stipulations other than that the trustee must be a Southern Baptist representing the state from which he is chosen.

It seems, however, that his purposes and those of the seminary and all of Southern Baptists would have been served better if he had used more judgment in declaring his concerns.

His is a document that will not soon be forgotten on the seminary campus or in Southern Baptist Convention life.

Surely such as this does not herald "A Historic New Day."

Johnson is accusing Southern Seminary of participating in a cover-up, but a seminary can't hide anything. Its students go out every year to trumpet what they have learned there. If one wants to judge a seminary, he must look at its results — its alumni.

Though concern over the statements of professors outside of classrooms, as was the case in this instance, is a valid condition, the "bottom line" has to be what is being preached from the pulpits of the seminary's graduates.

If we are to judge, that is where we must begin. We must not be sent on tangents because of the accusations of those who have not been there.

## Guest opinion . . .

### Continue funding BJCPA

By Fred Schwengel

worked closely with them for over 30 years.

As one who knows up close and personal many people in government, I can tell you that the BJCPA is highly respected and constantly called upon by the nation's leaders. The staff has a reputation as reliable, non-partisan, and hardworking. I have occasion to recommend them to various members of Congress as the source of specific and technical information about church-state questions. I know for a fact that they have drafted speeches for senators and members of the House of Representatives, Republicans and Democrats. That sort of trust is rare.

The present leader of the Baptist office in Washington, Dr. James Dunn, brings to the office traits of a scholar, activist, prophet, and pastor, a hard combination to find. He has an uncan-

ny blend of academic skill with careful attention to detail, history, philosophy, and law and a courageous activism to defend Baptist principles of religious freedom and separation of state and church.

The voice of the Baptist Joint Committee is strong enough to be heard, clear enough to be understood, and fair enough to be heeded. It has taken many years to reach this level of respect.

What a tragedy it would be for Southern Baptists if they should fail to sustain one of the best things they do, the Baptist Joint Committee!

What a failure of stewardship if Southern Baptists should shortsightedly weaken the Baptist voice of freedom just when we need it most!

I am praying that Southern Baptists meeting in New Orleans will reject the proposed budget and continue

National Public Radio broadcast an item recently which pointed out that 58 journalists died in the line of duty during 1989. In addition to that, some 300 were arrested; and a great many more were expelled from the countries in which they were trying to cover the news.

While 58 killed was a higher number than most years, it was not an isolated figure. During 1988, 30 died in performance of their work.

That is a frightening statistic. And yet, it had not been made public

strong funding for the Baptist Joint Committee.

We dare not deny the best of our history.

Fred Schwengel is a former member of Congress and is now president of the United States Capitol Historical Society in Washington.

previously. The reason given for there being no such announcement was that journalists generally feel that they are to report the news and not be a part of it. (As has been my facetious statement — journalists are observers of life, not participants.) Journalists are said to feel that any obstacles to the performance of their work are their problems and not those of their readers.

When one considers the situation, however, he has reason to be frightened by the circumstances. It shows to what lengths some people who are in the news will go in order to quash the news or alter its meaning.

From time to time there are indications of efforts among Southern Baptists to quash or alter the news. There have been no such instances affecting this paper, but one state paper editor was forced into early retirement.

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## The Baptist Record

VOLUME 114

(ISSN-0005-5778)

NUMBER 15

Published weekly except weeks of July 4 and Christmas by the Mississippi Baptist Convention, 515 Mississippi Street, Jackson, MS 39201. Subscription \$7.35 a year payable in advance. Second class postage paid at Jackson, Mississippi. The *Baptist Record* is a member of Southern Baptist Press Association.

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Postmaster: Send changes of address to The BAPTIST RECORD, P. O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205.  
Send news, communications, and address changes to The Editor, Baptist Record, P. O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205

The Second Front Page

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## Radio-TV elects Johnson to head the commission

By Toby Druin

FORT WORTH, Texas (BP) — Jack Johnson, 55-year-old executive director of the Arizona Southern Baptist Convention, was elected president of the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission in a called meeting of the commission May 3.

Johnson implied he would accept the call to head the Fort Worth, Texas, agency but said a formal announcement would have to wait until he had talked with the Arizona convention's Executive Board May 7.

"I am very excited about the prospects and impressed with the opportunity," he told the commission. "You can assume what you will assume." If he accepts, Johnson will succeed Jimmy R. Allen who resigned a year ago when the sale of the ACTS Network fell through. Richard T. McCarty has been acting president. Johnson's salary will be \$96,000 plus fringe benefits.

Commission Chairman Michael S. Hamlet, pastor of First Church, North Spartanburg, S.C., announced Johnson's election following two closed sessions of the commission lasting

almost two hours at the Sheraton Grand Hotel near the Dallas-Fort Worth Airport.

A vote count was not announced, although the vote apparently was not unanimous, observers noted.

In announcing Johnson's election following the second of the two closed sessions, Hamlet added that with the election the commission had given Johnson an "expression of our unanimous support."

He declined to say following the meeting, however, if the search committee had been unanimous in recommending Johnson or if the vote had been unanimous for Johnson.

The vote reportedly was 13-9, but Hamlet would not confirm it.

Johnson spoke briefly to the commission following Hamlet's announcement that he had been elected and said that he knew it had been difficult for them.

"But it is important that I know I have your support," he said. "We can build so long as I have your support."

He asked if anyone on the board "could not or would not support me" and if they could support one another after the decision.

"The challenge we face is more important than our differences," he said, adding that if anyone had "any sacks to empty," then was the time to do it.

"It is important that we be together,

together," he said. "If you aren't big enough to work with people who disagree with you, we are not together."

"None of the trustees indicated any disagreement with the election.

In presenting Johnson to the commission, Hamlet said the search committee had worked through 20 to 25 recommendations and had interviewed three people before settling on Johnson.

They had followed a five-point set of criteria, he said, that included: energy, commitment and a vision for the future of the RTVC; denominational experience and knowledge; ability to communicate with grassroots Southern Baptists; denominational acceptance; and administrative skills.

Johnson spoke to the commission, explaining he felt it necessary that "you know who I am, not to get your vote." He had not sought the presidency, he noted.

He shared his Christian testimony and how he had been called to the gospel ministry and eventually from the pastorate to be executive director of the Arizona convention in 1979.

He described himself as "proactive" rather than reactive and said his leadership style is characterized

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Johnson

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## Past state presidents decry claim of "historic new day"

Eighteen past presidents of Baptist state conventions across the nation have issued a six-part statement decrying the claim of a "historic new day" being promoted by "conservative" elements in the 11-year old Southern Baptist Convention controversy.

Saying "... we feel a need to speak to the recent claims of several Baptist pastors that they will bring in a 'historic new day' in the Southern Baptist Convention that will 'put an end to these painful 11 years ...,' the past presidents wrote, 'We see no evidence of any new coalition or historic new day'."

The statement, titled "A Statement on the Southern Baptist Convention Controversy and the Claim of a 'Historic New Day'" follows:

As past state convention presidents who are aware of what the events of the last 11 years have done to our convention, we feel a need to speak to the recent claims of several Baptist pastors that they will bring in a "historic new day" in the Southern Baptist Convention that will "put an end to these painful 11 years."

"We see no evidence of any new coalition or "historic new day." We only see

more individuals publicly supporting the continued control of the takeover movement. Morris Chapman has been a vital part of this takeover group since its inception in 1979.

We believe the division in our convention is the direct result of the infusion of secular political methodology into the Southern Baptist family. This "historic new day" is simply more political sloganizing.

We believe Southern Baptists are united over the nature and truth of Scripture. Those who claim otherwise are, at best, mistaken.

We believe Baptists are Bible-believing Christians, and our institutions are led by Bible-believing administrators, workers and teachers. We believe the harassment and character assassination of our denominational leaders and employees by the takeover group are unchristian acts.

We believe missions and evangelism should be the priorities of Southern Baptists. We believe the Southern Baptist Convention has deserted these priorities during the last 11 years in the pursuit of political power.

We believe the election of another member of the takeover coalition as convention president will only lead to more control, more exclusion and more division in our denominational family.

We believe a "historic new day" will come when Southern Baptists elect new leadership committed to inclusion, not exclusion; prayer, not politics; cooperation, not control.

The statement is signed by Lavonn Brown, Oklahoma; Milton Cunningham, Texas; G. Nelson Duke, Missouri; B. G. Hickem, Florida; Raymond Langlois, Tennessee; W. Winfred Moore, Texas; James E. Pleitz, president in Florida, now in Texas; William E. Poe, North Carolina; Floyd Roebuck, Georgia; Ches Smith, Georgia; Leon Smith, North Carolina; Sherrill Stevens, president in Virginia, now of North Carolina; Jon Stubblefield, president in Arkansas, now in Louisiana; Scott Tatum, president in Louisiana, now in Texas; Cliff Tennison, Louisiana; Doug Watterson, Tennessee; Jean Woodward, Virginia; and James F. Yates, Mississippi.

## Whitwell will represent state at Ridgecrest

Quinten Whitwell is the winner in the youth speakers' tournament sponsored by the Discipleship Training Department, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board. Whitwell was chosen from among five other speakers from five associations. The finalists are Barbara Faust, Riverhill Church, Mooreville, Itawamba Association; April Hicks, Alta Woods Church, Jackson, Hinds-Madison Association; J. Neal Wilkinson, East End Church, Columbus, Lowndes Association; Kim Keen, Dry Creek Church, Mize, Simpson Association; and Julia Massey, First Church, Water Valley, Yalobusha Association.

Whitwell, who won April 28, at Parkway Church, Jackson, is a member of First Church, Oxford. He first heard about the youth speakers' tournament, he said, when he heard youth speakers at Ridgecrest. An annual event, the tournament is held each spring in Jackson, to encourage youth, grades 10-12, to write a five-minute speech from selected topics.

Whitwell will represent Mississippi at Ridgecrest Conference Center Aug. 17-24. Twenty other speakers from around the country will represent their Baptist conventions and present their speeches during the Discipleship Training Leadership Conference.

Whitwell, as a Mississippi finalist, receives an expense paid week at Ridgecrest. He will enjoy numerous conferences throughout the week with 2,000 other young people.

"The youth speakers' tournament is an excellent discipleship tool to help high school youth write a testimony concerning what they believe and what God is doing in their lives," added Nichols. Brochures for the 1991 youth speakers' tournament will be available in August.



Quinten Whitwell

tournament finalist to attend Gulfshore Assembly, Discipleship Training Leadership Conference, July 12-14," said Robin Nichols, youth consultant with the department.

"The youth speakers' tournament is an excellent discipleship tool to help high school youth write a testimony concerning what they believe and what God is doing in their lives," added Nichols. Brochures for the 1991 youth speakers' tournament will be available in August.

## Southern faculty calls for trustee resignation

By Marv Knox

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (BP) — Southern Seminary's Faculty Club has called for the resignation of trustee Jerry Johnson, who wrote a 16-page article critical of President Roy Honeycutt and five professors.

Meanwhile, Johnson, pastor of Central Church in Aurora, Colo., has refused to resign. He challenged the

professors to take their cause before the Southern Baptist Convention annual meeting in New Orleans this summer.

Johnson's article, "The Cover-Up at Southern Seminary," was distributed to seminary trustees and published in the April issue of the *Southern Baptist Advocate*.

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Bill J. Leonard, president of the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary Faculty Club, addressed charges levied against several seminary professors by seminary trustee Jerry Johnson. Leonard, surrounded by faculty colleagues, held a copy of the *Southern Baptist Advocate* which contains Johnson's allegations. Photo by the Louisville Courier-Journal

# Seminary trustees nominated

NASHVILLE (BP) — Trustees to serve on the boards of the six Southern Baptist Convention seminaries have been nominated by the 1990 Committee on Nominations.

Under convention bylaws, seminary trustees serve five-year terms and are eligible to serve two consecutive terms.

In order to serve, the trustees must be elected by messengers to the 1990 annual meeting of the SBC, scheduled June 12-14 in the Louisiana Superdome in New Orleans.

**SOUTHERN SEMINARY (63 members):** 15 nominations considered; 6 new trustees; 9 renominated.

Nominated to terms to expire in 1995, replacing trustees ineligible for reelection are:

Charles L. Updike, pastor of First Church, Gaithersburg, Md., replacing William H. McBeath, Washington; Ruffin E. Snow Jr., pastor of Eastwood Church, Tulsa, Okla., replacing Richard T. Hopper of Ardmore; and Thomas H. Harding, a vocational evangelist and member of Retta Church, Burleson, Texas, replacing Vernon O. Elmore of Corpus Christi.

Wayne Gaunce, a businessman and member of Immanuel Church, Glasgow, Ky., was nominated to fill the unexpired term — to end in 1992 — of Martha Layne Collins of Versailles, who was replaced because of absenteeism.

Steven R. Taylor, pastor of Sandia Church, Albuquerque, N.M., was nominated to fill the unexpired term — to end in 1992 — of Norman Boshoff of Albuquerque, who resigned.

Ron L. Meredith, a federal judge and member of Highview Church, Louisville, Ky., was nominated to fill the unexpired term — to end in 1991 — of S. Cornell Snow of Louisville, who died.

Nominated to second terms are Bob L. Wagner, Marion, Ill.; John T. Wallace, Lexington, Ky.; W. Ray Frye, Alexandria, La.; William Watkins "Bill" Causey, Jackson, Miss.; Gerald C. Primm, Greensboro, N.C.; and James E. Harris Jr., Dayton, Ohio.

Nominated to second terms as local members are Kenneth E. Hall, Louisville, Ky., and Joe D. Cross, Louisville.

**SOUTHWESTERN SEMINARY (37 members):** 11 nominations considered; 7 new members, including a new member from New York; four renominations.

David G. Shackleford, assistant professor of New Testament at the Mid America Seminary branch in Schenectady, N.Y., and member of Trinity Church, Schenectady, was nominated as the new member from New York.

Nominated to a term ending in 1995, replacing a member ineligible for reelection was Paul Balducci, pastor of Woodley Church, Montgomery, Ala., replacing Drew J. Gunnells Jr. of Mobile.

Richard L. Mason, president of Frontier Community College and member of First Church, Fairfield, Ill., was nominated to a term to end in 1995, replacing Jim V. Dice of Salem, who declined to serve a second term.

Everett Powell, pastor of Berkeley Church, Berkeley Springs, W.Va., was nominated to fill the unexpired term — to end in 1991 — of James A. McCullum of Parkersburg, who moved.

Byron L. Ramsey, pastor of Temple Hills Church, Temple Hills, Md. (in the District of Columbia Baptist Convention), was nominated to fill the

unexpired term — to end in 1994 — of Stephen G. Hyde of Silver Spring, who resigned.

Ollin E. Collins, pastor of Harvest Church, Fort Worth, Texas, was nominated as an at-large member to a five-year term replacing John P. McNaughton of Fort Worth, who was ineligible for reelection.

Richard Barrett, a businessman and member of First Church, Denton, Texas, was nominated to fill the unexpired at-large term — to end in 1993 — of Harry W. Lewis of Carrollton, who resigned.

Nominated to second terms are Lyle Seltmann, Traverse City, Mich.; Pat Campbell, St. Charles, Mo.; and Ron S. Lewis, Franklin, Tenn.

Nominated to a second term as an at-large member was Wayne Lee Allen, Carrollton, Texas.

**NEW ORLEANS SEMINARY (37 members):** 10 nominations considered; 5 new members, including a new representative from New York; 5 renominations.

Ronald F. Norman, an engineer and member of Tonawanda (N.Y.) Church, was nominated as the new member from New York. His term will end in 1991.

Nominated to a term to end in 1995, replacing a member ineligible for reelection was Ron Jackson, pastor of East Gaffney Church, Gaffney, S.C., replacing Ernest L. Carswell Jr. of Taylors.

Arnold Allen Burk, a pharmacist and member of First Church, Russellville, Ark., was nominated to fill the unexpired term — to end in 1992 — of Richard T. Stiltner of Hope, who resigned.

Idonia (Mrs. Roland) Porterfield, an office manager and member of Taylor Road Church, Montgomery, Ala., was nominated as a local member to a term ending in 1995, replacing Andrew C. Nolin Jr. of Montgomery, who was ineligible for reelection.

Cynthia (Mrs. Benny) Thompson, a pastor's wife and member of Calvary Church, Monroe, La., was nominated to fill the at-large unexpired term — to end in 1993 — of Reuben F. Thomas of Metairie, who died.

Nominated to second terms are Charles L. Wood, Wichita, Kan.; Albert M. Burt, Flint, Mich.; Forrest L. Jackson, Pryor, Okla.; Gene Brock, Wichita Falls, Texas; and B. Conrad Johnston, Salem, Va.

**SOUTHEASTERN SEMINARY (30 members):** 10 nominations considered; 6 new members; four renominations.

Lawton H. Griffith, pastor of Eastmont Church, East Wenatchee, Wash., was nominated to a term to end in 1995, replacing Arlie L. McDaniel Sr. of Moscow, Idaho, who declined to serve a second term.

Dale Thompson, pastor of Immanuel Church, Rogers, Ark., was nominated to fill the unexpired term — to end in 1992 — of James W. Bryant of Fort Smith, who moved.

Jerre Brannen, a businessman and member of North Central Church, Gainesville, Fla., was nominated to fill the unexpired term — to end in 1993 — of Mark Caldwell of College Park, Md., who moved.

Clarence R. Brock, pastor of Coventry Church, Ft. Wayne, Ind., was nominated to fill the unexpired term — to end in 1993 — of Charles Ritchie of Hammond, who moved.

Robert E. Hand Sr., a service manager and member of Oaklawn Church, Kernersville, N.C., was nominated to a term to end in 1995, replacing Jesse P. Chapman Jr., of

Asheville, who was ineligible for reelection.

Arthur W. Madill, a marketing development manager and member of Mt. Airy (Md.) Church, was nominated as a local member to fill the unexpired term — to expire in 1994 — of Thomas M. Metts of Falls Church, N.C., who moved.

Nominated to second terms were Robert D. Crowley, Rockville, Md.; James W. Herron, Greenville, S.C.; and Jack May, Memphis, Tenn.

Nominated to a second term as a local member was Ralph E. Holt Jr., Wilmington, N.C.

**MIDWESTERN SEMINARY (35 members):** 7 nominations considered; 3 new members; 4 renominations.

Nominated to terms expiring in 1995, replacing members ineligible for reelection are:

W. Ross Morrison, pastor of First Church, Wheaton, Md., (in the DC Convention), replacing Marvin L. Roush of Hyattsville, Md.; Robert K. Davis, pastor of First Church, Lake City, Fla., replacing Philip Lykes of Lakeland; and William H. Haynes Jr., pastor of Indian Creek Church, Stone Mountain, Ga., replacing J. Truett Gannon of Stone Mountain.

Nominated to second terms are Robert T. Baggott Jr., Birmingham, Ala.; and Timothy K. Norman, Richmond, Va.

Nominated to second terms as local members were Roy Blunt, Jefferson City, Mo., and H. James Reimer, Springfield, Mo.

**GOLDEN GATE SEMINARY (36 members):** 9 nominations considered; 8 new members, including a new representative from New York; 1 renomination.

Bruce David Aubrey, pastor of First Christian SBC Church, Brushton, N.Y., was nominated as the new representative from New York.

Nominated to terms ending in 1995, replacing members ineligible for reelection are:

Wayne Allen Woods, pastor of First Church, Alma, Ga., replacing Carolyn (Mrs. William L.) Self of Atlanta; Rodney Sanders, a federal employee and member of McClendon Church, West Monroe, La., replacing O.Q. "Dick" Quick of Baton Rouge;

Earl Taylor, pastor of Lynhaven Church, Pokomoke, Md., (in the DC Convention), replacing Malvin M. Utley Jr., Lexington Park, Md.; and George Finley Mullinax, pastor of Western Branch Church, Portsmouth, Va., replacing James H. Slatton of Richmond.

Billie (Mrs. Frank) Veatch, a pastor's wife and member of Mountain View Church, Tucson, Ariz., was nominated to fill the unexpired term — to end in 1993 — of Clark Johnson of Phoenix, who moved.

Donald D. Jackson, director of associational missions and member of Grace Church, Turlock, Calif., was nominated as an at-large member to a term to end in 1995, replacing James W. Rives Jr. of Van Nuys, who was ineligible for reelection.

Joanne (Mrs. William) Hann, a public school teacher and member of Mid Cities Church, Orange, Calif., was nominated as an at-large member to fill the unexpired term — to end in 1991 — of Gordon K. Fercho of Chico, who resigned.

Mrs. Bonnie G. Metcalf, Riverside, Calif., was nominated to a second term.

If you are too busy to laugh — smile. It adds to your face value. — David A. Boyd.

## Devotional

# Committed to full-time service

By P. J. Scott

As a pastor, I often hear people speak of committing their lives to full-time Christian service. Normally we think of this as being gainfully employed by the church or denomination.

Our daughter Norma became a Christian at 6 years of age. I baptized her on Father's Day 1974. Growing up in a pastorage, she loved every aspect of the church from our vantage point. She was a nine-year state winner in Bible drills, received her Queen-Regent-in-Service in Acteens, and was always active in youth choir and bus ministry. So it seemed only natural when at age 15 she committed her life to full-time Christian service.

With a strong desire for children's ministry, she entered Union University in Jackson, Tenn., as a music and education major. Her plans were to earn her degree and enter New Orleans Seminary for a master's degree in religious education with an emphasis in children's ministry. She even pre-enrolled at the seminary and visited the campus.

But as is often the case, she met a young man, Carlton Gerrell, who was a business major at Union. They fell in love and were married in August of 1988, three months after her college graduation. That was the end of her full time Christian service. Or was it?

Norma and Carlton are both very active in Calvary Church, in Jackson, Tenn. Carlton was ordained as a deacon last October and Norma teaches fifth grade Church Training. They both sing in the choir. But perhaps more importantly, Norma teaches the sixth grade in an inner city public school. She has 32 children, many of whom come from broken homes, desperately needing love, support, and direction. Her life-long dream of being a children's minister is being realized daily.

I would certainly agree with the psalmist, "Lo, children are an heritage from the Lord." But I would also urge parents to teach them that as Christians we are all in full-time Christian service. We simply earn our living from different vocations.

Scott is pastor, First Church, Olive Branch.



## Calling a music minister?

Cliff Perkins, retired director of Church-Minister Relations Department, and Graham Smith, director of the Church Music Department, examine copies of a new booklet by Perkins. "Seeking and Calling a Minister of Music," was written for church search committees and for prospective music directors. It is available free on request from the Church Music Department, MBCB, Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205. This booklet is a follow up to another by Perkins entitled "The Seeking and Calling of a Pastor." That booklet is available free from the Church/Minister Relations Department.

## Public school sued for halting religious literature distribution

PHILADELPHIA, Pa. (EP) — Public school officials in the Philadelphia area are violating the constitutional rights of a high school sophomore to distribute Christian literature on school grounds, according to a lawsuit filed April 13 by attorneys for the Rutherford Institute, a non-profit legal defense organization specializing in religious liberty cases.

The lawsuit, brought in U.S. District Court in Philadelphia, accuses the Interboro School District of infringing on the free speech rights of Scott Slotterback, a 16-year-old student at Interboro Senior High School in Prospect Park, Pennsylvania.

According to the lawsuit, Principal Nicholas Cianci threatened Slotterback and fellow student Keith Ferry with expulsion for distributing gospel tracts to their fellow students. After being warned that his action was unconstitutional, the principal instituted a policy that allows students to distribute religious material only two days during the school year, and then only in restricted areas, the lawsuit says.

"Any policy restricting free speech must be narrowly tailored and can be no more restrictive than is reasonably necessary to protect a governmental interest," said Considine, who represents Slotterback. "This policy, which allows distribution for only two days a year, is far too broad."

# Nominations: trustees for commissions, committees

**NASHVILLE (BP)** — Trustees to serve on the commissions and committees of the Southern Baptist Convention have been nominated by the 1990 Committee on Nominations.

In order to serve, the trustees must be elected by messengers to the 1990 annual meeting, scheduled June 12-14 in the Louisiana Superdome in New Orleans.

**SOUTHERN BAPTIST FOUNDATION** (35 trustees): 11 nominations considered; 11 new members.

The Committee on Nominations nominates representatives from SBC agencies to serve on the Foundation. This year, the subcommittee will nominate representatives for six agencies when they meet June 10 in New Orleans.

Five of the six representatives had served their allowable terms, thus being ineligible to serve on their entities and on the Foundation board.

They are:

**Ingram L. Foster Jr.**, Prentiss, Miss., Executive Committee; Raymond Langlois, Nashville, Sunday School Board; Drew J. Gunnels Jr., Mobile, Ala., Southwestern Seminary; O.Q. "Dick" Quick, Baton Rouge, La., Golden Gate Seminary; and Robert L. Ross, Oklahoma City, Stewardship Commission.

The subcommittee also will nominate a replacement for the Christian Life Commission's representative, Rudolph C. Yakym Jr., Mishawaka, Ind., who moved.

Five new at-large members also were nominated, with terms to expire in 1994, replacing members ineligible for reelection. They are:

Hugh M. Sloan, a vice president for an investment firm and member of First Church, Nashville, replacing Osta Underwood, Nashville; M. Terry Turner, a banker and member of Brentwood (Tenn.) Church, replacing G. Warren Gregory, Nashville;

John C. Blackman, a vice president of an investment firm and member of Immanuel Church, Nashville, replacing Edward M. Smith, Nashville; Frank C. Ingraham, an attorney and member of First Church, Franklin, Tenn., replacing John P. Gifford Sr., Nashville; and Roy L. DePue, a businessman and member of First Church, Hendersonville, Tenn., replacing Clarence Edmonds, Brentwood.

**AMERICAN SEMINARY COMMISSION** (16 members): 5 nominations considered, 1 new member, 4 renominations

Steven A. Jett, pastor of Stock Creek Church, Knoxville, Tenn., was nominated to a term to expire in 1994, replacing Marshall Gupton, Nashville, who is ineligible for reelection.

Nominated to second terms are Milton W. Boyd, Montgomery, Ala.; Wendell H. Rone Sr., Owensboro, Ky., and Edsel L. West, Harriman, Tenn.

William T. Hill Jr., Nashville, was nominated to a second term as a member of the local board.

**EDUCATION COMMISSION** (21 members): 5 nominations considered; one new member, 4 renominations.

Antonio Villalobos, personnel director for Pan American University, Edinburg, Texas, and member of Emmanuel Church, McAllen, was nominated to a term to end in 1994, replacing Glen White of Pasadena, Texas, who is ineligible for reelection.

Nominated to second terms are Patrick O. Copley, Eliasville, Mo.; William L. Palmer, Morristown, Tenn.; and K. Eugene Lee, Manassas, Va.

Nominated to a second term as an at-large member is Harold W. Sorrell

Jr., Clinton, Md.

**BROTHERHOOD COMMISSION** (37 members): 12 nominations considered, 9 new members, including a new representative from New York; 3 renominations.

Alan C. Todd, pastor of First Church, Pittsford, was nominated as the new representative from New York.

Nominated to terms to expire in 1994, replacing members ineligible for reelection:

Nathan Pillow, evangelism director of the Arizona Southern Baptist Convention and member of First Church, Fountain Hills, replacing Dennis Daniel, Phoenix; Ozzie Berryhill, a layman and member of Park Hill Church, North Little Rock, Ark., replacing Angus L. Emerson III, Jacksonville, Ark.;

Comer T. Williamson, pastor of Central Church, Americus, Ga., replacing James E. Pelham of Albany, Ga.; Mark Patton, pastor of West Ridge Church, Topeka, Kan., replacing R. Tom Browning, Prairie Village, Kan.; and Keith Corrick, pastor of Liberty Church, Lisbon, Md., replacing Walter M. Wood of Princess Anne, Md.

Donlay Brown, retired military and member of Union Hill Church, Jefferson City, Mo., was nominated to a term to end in 1994, replacing Stanley M. Reinh of Oak Ridge, Mo., who died.

Daniel S. Hunt, pastor of Austintown (Ohio) Church, was nominated to fill the unexpired term — to end in 1991 — of Robert E. Gaultney of Reynoldsburg, Ohio, who moved.

Donald Long, pastor of Chamberlain Memorial Church, Chattanooga, Tenn., was named to a four-year term as an at-large member, replacing Richard H. Emmert of Morristown, who was ineligible for reelection.

Donald Fort, Grafton, W. Va., was nominated to a second term.

Willard C. Finch, Winterville, N.C., and C. Frazier Landrum, Edwards, Miss., were nominated to second terms as at large members.

**CHRISTIAN LIFE COMMISSION** (31 members): 9 nominations considered; 4 new members, including a new representative from New York; 5 renominations.

Sherri (Mrs. Steven) Cerny, a pastor's wife from Trinity Church, Galway, was nominated as the new representative from New York.

Thomas Ray Robertson, pastor of First Church, McHenry, Ill., was nominated to a term to expire in 1994, replacing George A. Strickland of Pinckneyville, Ind., who was ineligible for reelection.

Violet Galyean, a nurse and member of Cambria Church, Riner, Va., was nominated to a four-year term, replacing Celia (Mrs. F.M.) Minix Jr. of Alexandria, Va., who declined to serve a second term.

Gary Ledbetter, executive editor of the Indiana Baptist newspaper and member of Memorial Church, Brownsburg, Ind., was nominated to fill the unexpired term — to end in 1991 — of Rudolph C. Yakym Jr. of Mishawaka, Ind.

Nominated to second terms were Gary E. Crum, Georgetown, D.C.; Carl W. Garrett, Overland Park, Kan.; Jerry Burl Hopkins, Paducah, Ky.; and Curtis W. Caine, Jackson, Miss.

Nominated to a second term as an at-large member was James Paul Wood, Atlanta.

**HISTORICAL COMMISSION** (30 members): 11 nominations considered; 8 new members, including a new representative from New York; 3 renominations.

Norma (Mrs. R. Quinn) Pugh, the wife of the executive director of the Baptist Convention of New York, and member of University Church, Syracuse, was nominated as the new representative from New York.

Nominated to terms to end in 1994, replacing members ineligible for reelection:

Louis W. Brinker, pastor of First Church, Metropolis, Ill., replacing Myron D. Dill of Carbondale; Doris B. Yeiser, a retired employee of the Kentucky Baptist Convention and member of Beechmont Church, Louisville, replacing Ronald F. Deering of Louisville.

Nancy Hubbard, a homemaker and member of Covenant Church, Shepherdstown, W. Va., was nominated to a term to end in 1994, replacing Jon F. Caudle of Fairmont, who declined to serve a second term.

Sherry (Mrs. Levi) Parrish, a secretary and member of Eastgate Church, Davison, Mich., was nominated to fill the unexpired term — to end in 1991 — of Sophronia Ann Robbins of Farmington Hills, Mich., who moved.

Kathy (Mrs. Charles) Prince, a public school teacher and member of Rolling Hills Church, Columbia, Md., was nominated to fill the unexpired term — to end in 1992 — of Ben M. Primer of Baltimore.

Steve Goings, pastor of First Church, Gypsum, Colo., was nominated to fill the unexpired term — to end in 1993 — of Paul T. Brock of Brighton, who moved.

Nominated to second terms were John C. Dyer, Wichita, Kan.; Kathleen C. Clements, Baton Rouge, La.; and Joanna Dawson, Albuquerque.

**RADIO AND TELEVISION COMMISSION** (27 members): 7 nominations considered; 3 new members, including a new representative from New York; 4 renominations.

Robert M. Brooks Jr., pastor of Grace Church, Lake Grove, was nominated as the new representative from New York.

Nominated to terms to end in 1994, replacing members ineligible for reelection:

William D. Cohea Jr., a banker and member of First Church, Douglasville, Ga., replacing James W. Waters of Macon; and Omer Ray Finch Jr., owner of a food service business and member of First Church, Wetumka, Okla., replacing Russell Lawson of Oklahoma City.

Nominated to second terms were James M. Castleberry, Montgomery, Ala.; Steven A. Huffman, Ralston, Neb.; Tommy D. Donham, Albuquerque; and Charles H. McKeever, Roanoke, Va.

**STEWARSHIP COMMISSION** (27 members): 4 new members, including a new representative from New York; 4 renominations.

Romeo Dizon Manansala, a staffer of Filipino Churches and pastor of Bible Church International, Hasbrouck Heights, N.J., was nominated as the new representative from the Baptist Convention of New York.

Nominated to terms to end in 1994, replacing members ineligible for reelection:

Tha Ngoc Dang, pastor of Vietnamese Church, Ocean Springs, Miss., replacing Earl Kelly of Jackson; and Ray Rust, executive director of the South Carolina Baptist Convention, replacing Jimmie E. Harley of Florence.

Thomas D. Beaty Sr., owner of a farm equipment business and member of Clayton (Ala.) Church, was nominated to fill the unexpired term — to end in 1992 — of Charles F.

Dunkin of Birmingham, who moved.

Nominated to second terms were James R. Trammel, Tehachapi, Calif.; Samuel J. Hodges III, Temple Hills, Md.; Emery J. Farris, Pineville, Ky., and Robert L. Ross, Oklahoma City.

**PUBLIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE** (18 members): 3 nominations considered; 3 renominations.

Nominated to second terms were Roy R. Gean Jr., Fort Smith, Ark.; Thomas E. Pratt, Brighton, Colo., and Jay Strack, Dallas.

The committee also recommended that Albert Lee Smith, Birmingham, Ala., be reelected chairman.

**ORDER OF BUSINESS COMMITTEE** (6 members, plus the SBC president): 2 nominations considered; 2 new members.

Nominated to terms to end in 1993, replacing members ineligible for renomination:

O.S. Hawkins, pastor of First Church, Fort Lauderdale, Fla., replacing Dwight Reighard of Fayetteville, Ga.; and Ronald K. Edwards, an attorney and member of Hampton Heights Church, Greer, S.C., replacing Ruel May Jr. of Jackson, Miss.

The committee also recommended that Danny E. Watters of Douglasville, Ga., be elected chairman of the committee.

**DENOMINATIONAL CALENDAR COMMITTEE** (6 members): 2 nominations considered; 2 new members.

Nominated to terms to end in 1993, replacing members ineligible for reelection:

Pamela (Mrs. Brad) Dixon, a teacher's aide and member of Arapahoe Road Church, Highlands Ranch, Colo., replacing Leon B. Hataway of Clifton, Colo.; and Newman N. Antonson, pastor of Tyler Road Southern Church, Wichita, Kan., replacing Harold L. Finch of Leawood, Kan.

The committee also recommended Don Davis, Portland, Ore., be elected chairman.

**BAPTIST WORLD ALLIANCE** (11 Southern Baptist representatives on the General Council): 11 nominations considered, 4 new members, 7 renominations.

Four executives of SBC agencies serve by virtue of office. They are Harold C. Bennett, Executive Committee; Lloyd Elder, Sunday School Board; Larry L. Lewis, Home Mission Board; and Keith Parks, Foreign Mission Board.

The incumbent president of the SBC also serves by virtue of office.

Two new members were nominated replacing members, who although eligible to serve because the SBC bylaws do not limit the terms of BWA representatives, were replaced by the committee.

Dellanna O'Brien, executive director of the Woman's Missionary Union of the SBC and member of Mountain Brook Church, Birmingham, Ala., was nominated to replace Carolyn Weatherford Crumpler, the recently retired WMU executive director. Crumpler, now of Cincinnati, Ohio, had served 10 years as an at-large member of the BWA.

Erle Cocke Jr., a management consultant and member of Briggs Memorial Church, Bethesda, Md., was nominated to replace Jack R. Jones of Arlington, Va. Jones had served 10 years on the BWA.

A new member will be nominated by the subcommittee when it meets in New Orleans June 10 to replace S. Truett Cathey of Jonesboro, Ga., who declined to serve another term.

Another member will be nominated

to replace T. Truett Ott of Tampa, Fla., when the subcommittee meets in New Orleans June 10.

Nominated to second terms were C.B. Hogue, Fresno, Calif., and Bailey E. Smith, Atlanta.

**NORTH AMERICAN BAPTIST FELLOWSHIP** (15 members): 15 nominations considered; 3 new members; 12 renominations.

Executives of six SBC agencies serve on the NABF general council by virtue of office. They are Harold C. Bennett, Executive Committee; Lloyd Elder, Sunday School Board; Larry L. Lewis, Home Mission Board; Dellanna O'Brien, Woman's Missionary Union; and James H. Smith, Brotherhood Commission.

The incumbent president of the SBC also serves by virtue of office.

Three new members were nominated replacing members, who although eligible for reelection, were not nominated by the committee. They are:

Gary Marquez, pastor of North Swann Church, Tucson, Ariz., replacing Robert Glass of Phoenix; J. Robert McAlister, a layman from First Church, Columbia, S.C., replacing Robert L. Griffin of Ringgold, La.; and John Finn, pastor of Lifeline Church, Little Rock, Ark., replacing Brian L. Harbour of Little Rock.

At-large members nominated to new terms include William D. Bowyer, St. Louis; John B. Brashear, Reynoldsburg, Ohio; Ted Coldiron, Enid, Okla.; Floyd W. Harris, Burke, Va.; and Hon V. Lao, Concord, Calif.



**SAXOPHONE MAN:** Streetcorner musicians treat tourists to Dixieland jazz throughout the historic French Quarter in New Orleans. The city will play host to the Southern Baptist Convention annual meeting June 12-14. (BP photo by Ron Calamia, courtesy Greater New Orleans Tourist and Convention Commission)

# Nominations: Executive Committee, boards

NASHVILLE (BP) — People to serve on the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee and the four denominational boards — Foreign Mission Board, Home Mission Board, Sunday School Board, and Annuity Board — have been nominated by the 1990 Committee on Nominations.

To serve, the nominees must be elected by messengers to the 1990 annual meeting of the SBC, scheduled June 12-14 in the Louisiana Superdome in New Orleans.

Three of the boards — Foreign, Home, and Sunday School — each received an additional member from Texas. The Baptist General Convention of Texas moved past the 2.5 million member level, entitling it to 10 representatives on the boards.

The Annuity Board received an additional member from New York. The Baptist Convention of New York moved past the 25,000 member level, thus entitling it to representation on the Annuity Board and the commissions and institutions of the convention.

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (77 members)**: 19 nominations considered; 6 new members; 13 renominations.

Nominees, with terms to expire in 1994, replacing members ineligible for reelection, include:

Lee Roberts, a businessman and member of Eastside Church, Marietta, Ga., replacing Hazel Eubanks of Atlanta; Larry K. Otis, a businessman and member of Calvary Church, Tupelo, Miss., replacing Ingram L. Foster Jr. of Prentiss; Steve Choplin, a power company executive and member of Long Leaf Church, Wilmington, N.C., replacing Ann Smith of Greensboro; James L. Oliver, pastor of Bethlehem Church, Moore, S.C., replacing Ira Q. Craft of Columbia; and Joe H. Reynolds, an attorney and member of Second Church, Houston, replacing Ed Drake of Dallas.

J.C. Mitchell, pastor of First Church, Winter Park, Fla., was nominated to fill the unexpired term — to expire in 1992 — of Jerry Passmore of Pensacola, who resigned.

Nominated to second terms are J. Sidney Sample, Mobile, Ala.; William D. Powell III, Birmingham, Ala.; Judson D. Owen, Palmer, Alaska; Ronnie W. Floyd, Springdale, Ark.; James M. Morton Jr., Livermore, Calif.; Guy S. Sanders III, Lake Wales, Fla.; William F. Harrell, Martinez, Ga.; Dewey R. Keys Sr., Elizabethtown, Ky.;

David E. Hankins, Lake Charles, La.; Don Whitt, Milan, Tenn.; Gordon C. Graham, New Braunfels, Texas; W. Andy Hornbaker Sr., Salt Lake City, Utah; and Scott C. Humphrey, Alexandria, Va.

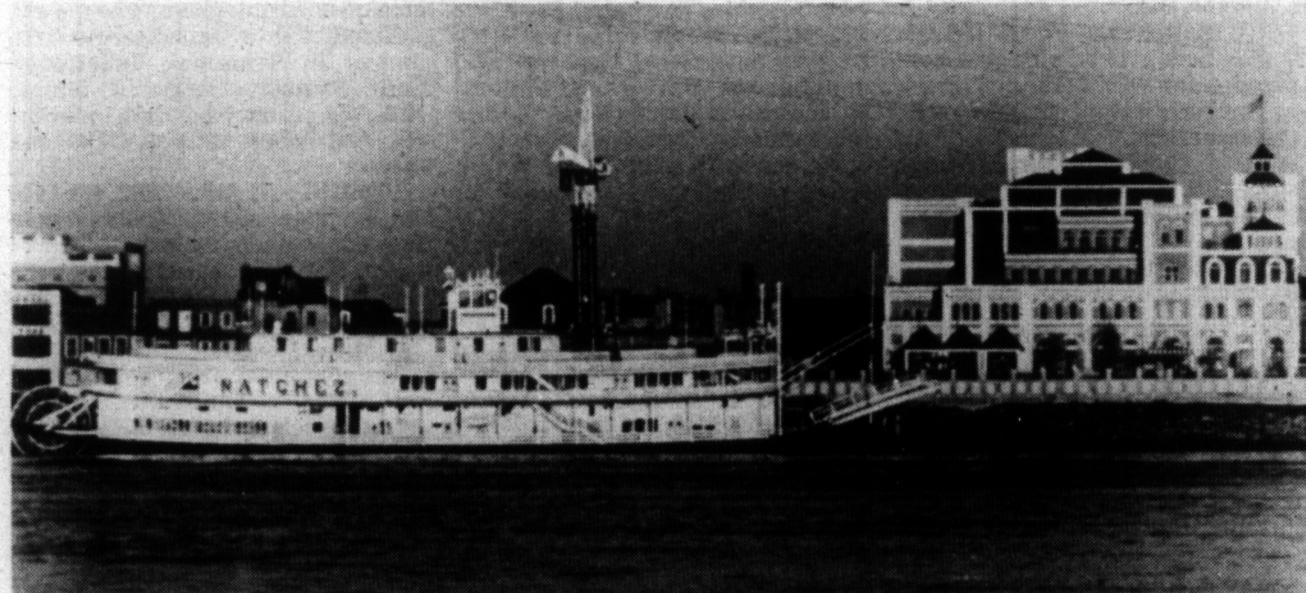
**FOREIGN MISSION BOARD (90 members)**: 27 nominations considered; 18 new members, including a new representative from Texas; nine renominations.

The new member from Texas is Bill Sutton, pastor of First Church, McAllen.

Nominees, with terms to expire in 1994, replacing members ineligible for new terms, include:

Ronnie Marshall, minister of music at P'kview church, Eufaula, Ala., replacing Hollis Rice of Florence; Roy Scarborough, an attorney and member of Curtis Church, Augusta, Ga., replacing Frank A. Norman Jr. of West Point; Randy Charles Davis, pastor of First Church, Yanceave, Miss., replacing Larry Wells Kennedy of Laurel;

J. Mike Minnix, pastor of First



The Riverboat Natchez paddles past one of several masts on the Mississippi River in New Orleans, site of the 1990 Southern Baptist Convention annual meeting. (BP photo by Ron Calamia, courtesy Greater New Orleans Tourist & Convention Commission)

Church, Cherryville, N.C., replacing C. Mark Corts of Winston-Salem; John Allen Hays, pastor of Jersey Church, Reynoldsburg, Ohio, replacing Virgil D. Batt of Parma, Virginia (Mrs. Altona Brant, a teacher and member of First Church, Spartanburg, S.C., replacing Patsy (Mrs. Gilbert) Waters of Camden);

William M. Blanchard Jr., pastor of First Church, Soddy-Daisy, Tenn., replacing Fred A. Selman of Chattanooga; Joel Gregory, pastor of Travis Avenue Church, Fort Worth, Texas, replacing Kenny Lynn Lewis of Brownsville; Terry J. Horton, a homebuilder and member of First Church, Euless, Tex., replacing Barbara (Mrs. Milton) Cunningham of Houston;

Nominated to terms expiring in 1994 replacing members who declined second terms are Patrick W. Bullock Sr., pastor of Annaville Church, Corpus Christi, Texas, replacing David C. Walker of San Antonio; and Omar Pachecano, director of missions for the El Paso Baptist Association and member of Eastside Church, El Paso, replacing Hal Browning Boone of Friendswood.

James T. Garland, pastor of Hazel (Ky.) Church, was nominated to fill the unexpired term — to end in 1991 — of Harold R. England of Winchester, who resigned.

N. Rob Martin, a professor at Auburn University and member of Lakeview Church, Auburn, Ala., was nominated to fill the unexpired term — to end in 1992 — of Mary Hunter of Lakeview, who died.

Robert Reed Lynn, pastor of Rock Creek Church, Shawnee, Okla., was nominated to fill the unexpired term — to end in 1993 — of William H. Cook of Bartlesville, who moved.

Local members nominated to terms ending in 1994 replacing members ineligible for renomination are Ethel (Mrs. Thomas W.) Sullivan, a homemaker and member of First Church, Woodstock, Va., replacing Nora M. Stephenson of Alexandria; and Franklin Hall, pastor of Bethel Church, Tabb, Va., replacing Robert F. Cochran of Richmond.

Paula (Mrs. Ken) Hemphill, a pastor's wife and member of First Church, Norfolk, Va., was nominated as a local member to fill the unexpired term — to end in 1992 — of George W. Hamm Jr. of Richmond, who resigned.

Nominated to second terms are Jack J. Bledsoe, Fordyce, Ark.; Ron E. Wilson, Thousand Oaks, Calif.; John P. Greene, Lake Worth, Fla.; A. Ben Hatfield, Alpharetta, Ga.; James W. Hall, Danville, Ky.; Hoyt A.

Savage, Las Vegas, Nev.; Charles A. Fink, Las Cruces, N.M.; and Gary A. Smith, Enid, Okla.

Eloise (Mrs. H.L.) Bryant Jr., of Portsmouth, Va., was nominated to a second term as a local member.

**HOME MISSION BOARD (90 members)**: 23 nominations considered; 12 new members, including a new representative from Texas; 11 renominations.

The subcommittee of the Committee on Nominations will nominate a new member from Texas June 10 in New Orleans.

Nominees, with terms expiring in 1994, replacing members ineligible for reelection, include:

Melva June (Mrs. Burney) Tate, a homemaker and member of First Southern Church, Fountain Valley, Calif., replacing Dorothy (Mrs. T.L.) Kirkpatrick of Salinas; Clome (Mrs. Sidney) Odom, a homemaker and member of Chamlee Memorial Church, Fort Valley, Ga., replacing Valerie B. Albertson of Marietta; Emma (Mrs. David) Day, a nurse and member of Severson Valley church, Elizabethtown, Ky., replacing R. W. Hodges of Princeton;

Kenneth Wayne Pollard, an employee of Western Piedmont Community College, and member of First Church, Glen Alpine, N.C., replacing Carolyn (Mrs. Henry) Byrd of Matthews; Charles Rhodes, a labor relations manager and member of Rising Star Church, Youngstown, Ohio, replacing Arthur Patterson of Mason;

Troy M. Gregg, pastor of First Church, Chesnee, S.C., replacing John P. Faris of Laurens; Guy M. Milam, pastor of North Knoxville (Tenn.) Church, replacing Jerry L. Glisson of Memphis;

Manuel A. Galindo, a government employee and member of Primera Iglesia, Harlingen, Texas, replacing Clifford E. Hogue of Midland; Wencelago Rangel, a plumbing company owner and member of Emmanuel Church, Mission, Texas, replacing Ronnie Yarber of Mesquite; and Bass Redd, an aerospace engineer and member of Bayshore Church, LaPorte, Texas, replacing Hal Buckner Boone of Friendswood.

Ronald Steven Hammack, pastor of Clarkston (Ga.) Church, was nominated to a four year term as a local member replacing Searcy S. Garrison of Atlanta, who was ineligible for reelection.

Nominated to second terms are Troy Morrison, Montgomery, Ala.; Richard Jackson, Phoenix, Ariz.; Rex Holt Jr., Jonesboro, Ark.; Orris R. Bullock, Silver Spring, Md.; Harold C. Epperson, Kissimmee, Fla.; Linda

by Welch, Daytona Beach, Fla.; Rick Forrester, Tucker, Ga.; Allen F. Hardrod, Bellevue, Ky.; J. Gerald Harris, Jackson, Miss.;

Glen R. Stern, Grove City, Ohio; Charles A. Wilson, Cherry Hill, N.J.; Daniel A. Collins, Taylors, S.C.; and Charlene (Mrs. Oakley) Sloter, Stephenville, Texas.

O. Eugene Mims, Cleveland, Tenn., was nominated to a second term as a local member.

**ANNUITY BOARD (49 members)**: 15 nominations considered; 7 new members, including a new representative from New York; 8 renominations.

Luis E. Nieto, treasurer of the Metropolitan New York Baptist Association, and member of First Spanish Church, Manhattan, was nominated as the new representative from New York.

Nominated to terms expiring in 1994 replacing members ineligible for reelection include:

Richard Dwyer, pastor of Narbonne Avenue Church, Redondo Beach, Calif., replacing Joseph G. Davis of Westminster; and G.R. Rush, a certified public accountant and member of Central Church, Chattanooga, Tenn., replacing Ronald D. Earl of Chattanooga.

Tom Shaw, pastor of Red Fork Church, Tulsa, was nominated to a four year term replacing David C. Hall of Tulsa, who moved.

Richard Moody, pastor of Tabernacle Church, Ennis, Texas, was nominated to fill the unexpired term — to end in 1991 — of Bob Ecklund of Euless, who moved.

Ray Taylor, a businessman and member of Travis Avenue Church, Fort Worth, Texas, was nominated to fill the unexpired term — to end in 1992 — of Paul Powell of Tyler, who resigned after being elected president of the Annuity Board.

Herman Jared Smith, a real estate developer and member of Richland Hills Church, Hurst, Texas, was nominated to a four year term as a local member, replacing Robert McBurney of Waco, who was ineligible for reelection.

Nominated to second terms are John A. Caddell, Montgomery, Ala.; William A. Willis, Little Rock, Ark.; William G. Beshears, McDonough, Ga.; Daniel R. Taylor, Baltimore; Bob R. Howard, Independence, Mo.; and Patrick L. Baughman Sr., Hilton Head Island, S.C.

Nominated to second terms as local members are Owen H. Goff, Irving, Texas; and R. Earl Allen, Fort Worth, Texas.

## Government admits funding settlement in Jerusalem

**JERUSALEM**, Israel (EP) — The Israeli government has admitted that it secretly helped fund a new Jewish settlement in the Christian Quarter of Jerusalem in April; the Jewish move into the Quarter sparked local riots and drew international condemnation.

That action muddies the relationship between the U.S. and Israel,

which has become increasingly complicated in recent months. The U.S. government has urged Israeli officials to strive for peace with other peoples living in and around Israel, particularly with Arab Moslems; but U.S. officials have said that the attempt to establish a Jewish presence in the Christian Quarter undermines the peace process.

# Southern Seminary faculty . . .

(Continued from page 3) tist Advocate, an independent newspaper affiliated with SBC conservatives.

The faculty group's call for Johnson's resignation was made from the steps of the Louisville, Ky., school's Alumni Chapel, where professors were surrounded by cheering, applauding students.

"The Faculty Club, consisting of members and associates of the faculty of Southern Seminary, declares its moral outrage at the actions of trustee Jerry Johnson in attacking the integrity, fidelity to the Scriptures, and character of the president and faculty of our seminary," it said in a statement unanimously adopted by the group and read by Bill J. Leonard, a church history professor and chair of the Faculty Club.

"The harm done by Mr. Johnson has in turn been magnified through publication of his article in the Southern Baptist Advocate. Neither Mr. Johnson nor the editor of the Southern Baptist Advocate contacted the president or other faculty members about the content of the article.

"The intentions of this article are clear: to drive President Honeycutt from office, to do harm to our community of faith, unjustly to accuse faculty of failure in their teaching responsibilities, and to sow seeds of hate toward Southern Seminary throughout the Southern Baptist Convention.

"His methods employ innuendo, misstatement of fact, personal attack, and distortion of views. Most of the material he uses refers to writings and events of as long as 20 years ago. Every substantive charge in the material was dealt with by the board of trustees in official actions in 1986, clearing those accused of charges similar to Mr. Johnson's."

The statement added: "We declare our support for every colleague named by Mr. Johnson and affirm their fidelity to Scripture, their responsible freedom in teaching, and their moral integrity. We grieve deeply at the effect of this malicious attack upon their character and their families and pledge support to them in whatever ways possible.

"Furthermore, we respectfully call upon Mr. Johnson to resign his position of trust as a trustee of the seminary, given his declared intention to force the retirement of our president and his demonstrated actions to accomplish such an objective.

"We also call upon every responsible Southern Baptist to attend the Southern Baptist Convention (June 12-14) to stand against the intimidation that is engulfing our denomination by voting for new leaders who will work for the improvement of all boards and agencies of the denomination. What was called a 'correction' in 1979 is now a movement of persecution."

Faculty request for a trustee's resignation is unprecedented in the 131-year-old school's history, Leonard told the crowd.

"Johnson, like all trustees, has every right to raise concerns," he noted. "However, Johnson has made himself prosecutor, judge and jury for the entire board of trustees. Without benefit of proper hearing or trial, Johnson tells the board of trustees and all Southern Baptists that 'one would have to be blind as a mole not to see that Dr. Honeycutt just does not

## "Our goal is sharing Christ on campgrounds"

By Anne W. McWilliams

*There were ninety and nine that safely lay  
In the shelter of the fold,  
But one was out on the hills away,  
Far off from the gates of gold,  
Away on the mountains wild and bare,  
Away from the tender Shepherd's care . . .*

Barbara Myers sang this hymn for Campers on Mission gathered April 27-29 at the Columbus fairgrounds for a north regional rally. Her husband, Bob, delivered the Saturday evening message after she led the special music. Bob was interim pastor until recently at Southside Church, Columbus. Both he and Barbara are on the faculty of the Math and Science School in that city; he is the administrator of the school.

That she had to walk to the front of the house on crutches did nothing to detract from the outstanding quality of her voice. Some time before, she had been struck by a car, and the driver had immediately left the scene. Concerning this incident, one camper recalled that while Barbara was in the hospital, young people who visited her would express amazement at her attitude of forgiveness toward the driver who hit her. Thus she made use of an opportunity to bear testimony of her own dependence on "the tender Shepherd's care."

Campers on Mission is an interdenominational campers' organization sponsored by the Home Mission Board, SBC. "The main goal is sharing Christ as you camp in the campgrounds," said Ralph Henson of Meridian, state president.

The south regional rally met in Columbia in March. The state rally will meet September 21-23 at Carthage, and the national rally will meet in Lafayette, La., June 22-24. Regional rallies, north and south, will take place again Oct. 12-14 at Kosciusko and Nov. 9-11 at Mazaela Campground, Biloxi.

Other state officers are Bruce (Red) Worrell, Ackerman, vice president, and Mae Price, Columbus, secretary/treasurer. Hollis Bryant, consultant, Cooperative Missions Department, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, assists in coordination of the meetings.

Others on program at the Columbus rally included Mickey Dalrymple, pastor of Fairview Church, Columbus, and Horace Ross, bi-vocational pastor from Ridgeland. Those present attended the morning worship service at Fairview Church, Columbus, on April 29.

The group presented an award of appreciation to Jesse McMillan, camper from Kosciusko, for his service in the organization's volunteer projects and for his promotion of COM.

The rallies offer the campers fellowship, devotional times, and outdoor activities. Also, from these meetings, groups have organized to undertake a variety of missions projects — helping to build churches and other projects. In several areas, Campers on Mission are in charge of worship services at campgrounds during the summer.

Two mission projects COM groups are planning for this summer are to be in Hope, Ark., and Snellville, Ga.

believe the Bible.' In his methods and his mission, he has defined doctrine for the board and abrogated his trust as a trustee of the seminary."

The faculty did not eagerly enter the convention's political fray, Leonard added: "As a faculty, we want only to teach our classes and work with our students. But the denomination we serve is fearing itself apart, manifesting the symptoms of a dysfunctional family, and we must speak out. Institutional and personal abuse is the norm throughout the denomination."

"Jerry Johnson was a 14-year-old boy in 1979 when the agenda for gaining political control of this denomination began. After 11 years of destructive behavior, is it any wonder that new trustees begin their terms with malicious attacks on institutions and fellow Christians? What have we done to a generation of Southern Baptist young people? Where is the will to end this madness?"

"I am not going to resign," Johnson told Baptist Press. "If they want me to resign, I invite them to bring it to the Southern Baptist Convention, because they have no authority in this area," he said, adding that authority in the denomination

passes down from the SBC to trustees, through the president and administration and to faculty.

Johnson, a graduate of Criswell College in Dallas and Denver Conservative Baptist Theological Seminary, took issue with several of the Faculty Club's statements.

"The first is that I did not contact the president or faculty," he said, noting that he talked with Honeycutt for more than an hour in September 1989.

"We did not talk about the idea of a paper, but we talked about the substance" and specifically talked about problems with Honeycutt and four professors, Johnson said. "He indicated he would not take the lead, and when he did that, I felt it was my duty to take his response back to my constituency, which is the Southern Baptist Convention. That is why the article and why it was published in the Advocate. I felt like the people needed to know."

Honeycutt confirmed that he and Johnson talked last September, when Johnson came to campus for his orientation as a trustee. But the two of them did not discuss the specific points of Johnson's 16-page article, Honeycutt insisted.

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Barbara Myers of Columbus presented special music for Campers on Mission during their recent rally in Columbus. In the background, left, are Jesse and Irell McMillan of Kosciusko, and Barbara Henson of Meridian, wife of Ralph Henson, state president of COM. Mrs. Myers was using crutches, as a result of being struck by a hit and run driver.

In Hope, June 24-30, a team will work at the Migrant Center in an area where many Spanish-speaking persons work at a chicken processing plant. The campers plan to do such jobs as construction and clean-up and serving refreshments to those who participate in activities at the Center.

For the project in Snellville, July 28-Aug. 4, they expect to build a church annex and baptistry and lead in backyard Bible clubs. In both projects, they will do one-on-one witnessing.

Campers on Mission last year sponsored a Royal Ambassador, and sent him to camp at Central Hills. This year they plan to send a GA to Garaway.

They have helped with maintenance and other jobs at Central Hills. Also they have begun building a campground there. Mae Price said they hope eventually to have enough campsites so that a state rally could be held at the retreat.

Though senior adults do join Campers on Mission, it is not just for senior adults. Anyone may join who owns some type of camper — RV, mobile home, or pop-up tent — anyone who loves the outdoors and wants to use available opportunities to share Christ on the campground.

"Doctors and nurses are welcome," said Mrs. Price. "Teachers and preachers, old and young, all ages, all professions, are invited. We don't have any tent campers enrolled, but would like to have some." No fees are charged for joining.

COM members are available at times for speaking and sharing information about their ministry. Anyone interested in arranging for such a speaker may contact Mrs. Price.

For more information about participation in a future mission project, or about joining COM, one may contact Mae Price at 2024 Beersheba Road, Columbus, MS 39702 (phone 328-0244).

"I have no recollection of his discussing persons," Honeycutt said. "He only discussed problems. We discussed his problem with Article I of the Abstract of Principles (the seminary's governing document) on Scripture, and specifically his interpretation of 'inspiration' to mean inerrancy. He did discuss the necessity of adding only inerrantists to the faculty.

"I don't think he discussed anything other than his general unhappiness. He may have mentioned a litany of names as a general expression of his unhappiness, but I would not consider those surface discussions adequate to say he discussed the 16-page document with me."

Johnson did mail Honeycutt a copy of the document at the same time he mailed the document to the trustees and the Advocate, but that does not constitute "discussion" of the issues, Honeycutt said.

Of their initial meeting, Honeycutt added: "He also said if I would cooperate like another SBC official whom I will not name, I would receive a plaque and a car when I retired. Otherwise, he said, when they had a two-thirds majority, they would have to 'deal' with me."

Speaking to the faculty accusation that Johnson is trying to force Honeycutt's resignation, Johnson said: "I have not called for his resignation. It is unfortunate that while they are calling for my resignation I have not called for anyone's resignation, his or theirs."

Asked if he would support a trustee move to fire Honeycutt or the professors, Johnson noted: "We have agreed as a group of trustees to postpone my paper until next year, and that's a question only the trustees could answer. I don't think it would be appropriate to comment at this time."

The Faculty Club's action is inappropriate within the convention structure, he added: "The bad thing about that is that by posturing themselves against the trustees they are posturing themselves against the convention. The trustees were sent by the convention; we do not wish to posture ourselves against the faculty."

In an interview, Leonard insisted the issue stretches beyond Southern Seminary. "This just goes on and on. There is no end," he said. "Southern Baptists seem to have no will to stop it."

He cited attacks on faculty and/or (Continued on page 11)

# 'Here's Hope' revivals end; HMB is assessing results

By Mark Wingfield

ATLANTA (BP) — Early reports indicate Southern Baptists could record at least 175,000 professions of faith in Christ as a result of "Here's Hope" revivals held nationwide this spring, said Richard Harris, director of mass evangelism for the denomination's Home Mission Board.

The Southern Baptist Convention officially concluded a six-week period of revivals April 29, although some churches still had revivals scheduled for May. The simultaneous revival effort was sponsored by the Home Mission Board with the theme, "Here's Hope. Jesus cares for you."

"I think we're likely to hit or exceed the goal of 175,000 professions of faith," Harris said during a Here's Hope evaluation session with the board's mass evangelism staff.

Here's Hope reports coming to the board already are "much stronger" than early reports during the denomination's "Good News America" simultaneous revivals in 1986, Harris said. The 1986 revivals resulted in 145,000 professions of faith.

The Hawaii Baptist Convention is an example of the reports Harris has received. With 51 of 61 churches and missions reporting, the convention already has surpassed its goal of 200 professions of faith.

A more accurate assessment of nationwide revival results will be available after the board conducts a nationwide survey of churches in June, he said.

Even before the numerical results are tabulated, Harris and his staff said they feel good about the changed lives they have witnessed and have heard about through reports from churches, associations, and state conventions.

Sherry Bass, board employee who handled correspondence from the media campaign and took calls on the "Here's Hope Victory Line," said she believes Here's Hope was a success.

"Here's Hope was a success because it touched the nation on an individual basis," she explained. "The

theme that Jesus cares for you was the biggest triumph."

Bass said six weeks of ads in Time magazine generated letters from the homeless, people who are sick, and other people facing difficult circumstances. "Every time we had an ad in Time magazine, people would write and say, 'I'm going through a divorce' or 'I'm in prison and it's hard to find somebody who cares.'

"They would hit upon the specific messages of each of the ads. In a lot of the letters, the last thing they would say was 'thanks for listening.' They really felt like someone was listening."

The Here's Hope theme "wedded evangelism and ministry," said Tom McEachin, associate director of mass evangelism. "The 'Jesus cares for you' theme brought in people who perhaps have a different concept of evangelism."

"We're trying to bring these two elements of evangelism and ministry together."

Harris said he believes the Here's Hope revivals were successful because of "a hunger in this nation for spiritual renewal and spiritual awakening."

He also credits laypeople with making a difference through prayer and by bringing non-Christians to the meetings. As many as 500,000 people were praying for the simultaneous revivals on a daily basis, Harris said.

The mass evangelism leaders said Here's Hope has also shown a new generation of Baptists that revivals can be effective in a modern world.

"Many of our churches have never seen a revival like the one they had," said Associate Director Thad Hamilton. "With Here's Hope, they saw what is a normal New Testament revival meeting. A lot of Southern Baptists — especially the younger ones, the Baby Boomers — didn't think it ever worked."

"Revival in the urban setting has had to go through some changes in the last few years," McEachin added. "A lot of our revival traditions have come

out of a rural past where the crops were in and you had a big harvest meeting.

"But I think we've come to realize that no matter what kind of church you have — yuppies or inner city or rural — there needs to be catalytic times when we pull the people together to concentrate on outreach and harvesting lost people and celebration. It's a necessary event that spurs on the process of personal evangelism."

In evaluating revivals, churches should remember that regardless of how many professions of faith were recorded, the results always will be found in changed individuals, Hamilton said: "When it all breaks down, if there are 100 people, it's a hundred ones. The results are all in individuals."

Rather than measuring success strictly by numbers, churches should look at whether they accomplished their goals, McEachin added. "If a church planned during that one week to gather all the lost souls in their community and they didn't do it, then that church has failed," he explained. "But if the revival meeting is part of the overall strategy for that church for the year, that means it's going to be a catalyst for harvest in the future."

"If a church stops at the end of a revival and says, 'That's it,' they will probably never be able to measure the results of the revival," McEachin continued. "In a way the Spirit would be quenched."

Harris added, "One of the biggest mistakes a church can make is to assume that because they had a good revival experience, that is therefore the only legitimate means of evangelism."

"Revival is one good tool that must be incorporated into a total, holistic strategy of evangelism. It must be wedded with soul winning training, visitation and getting out into the marketplaces like the schools and businesses."

Wingfield writes for HMB.

## Huge turnout for April 28 Washington pro-life rally

WASHINGTON, D.C. (EP) — An estimated 600,000 people participated in the Rally for Life in Washington, D.C., April 28. The rally was the largest event in the history of the pro-life movement, despite claims by abortion advocates that the influence of abortion foes is waning.

It was also one of the largest rallies ever held in the nation's capital. While some news media quoted crowd estimates as low as 200,000, photos taken from atop the Washington Monument and from the air showed the crowd to be in the 600,000 range, according to the National Right to Life Committee, which organized the rally.

"This is a day of celebration and protest," Vice President Dan Quayle told the crowd, which filled the grounds of the Washington Monument, and overflowed onto the Ellipse and Reflecting Pool grounds. "This day can begin a healing of the terrible wound which for almost two

decades has torn at our country's heart."

Quayle called abortion a "national tragedy," and pointed out that an infant can be aborted for almost any reason up to the time of its birth." During the rally a giant clock ticked off one death every few seconds to illustrate that 4,800 abortions are performed daily in the United States.

Quayle said polls consistently show that most Americans object to the current lack of restrictions on abortion. "The great majority of Americans stand together against the terrible reality of unlimited abortion on demand," he said, calling this coalition "the biggest tent in American politics."

The vice president called the pro-life movement "the humanitarian movement of our time," a theme echoed by Geline Williams, chairperson of the board of the National Right

to Life Committee. Also the mayor of Richmond, Williams quoted fellow Virginian Thomas Jefferson, who said, "The care of human life and happiness, and not their destruction, is the only legitimate object of good government." She said if Jefferson were alive today, he would "consider abortion a monumental tragedy which, like slavery, is inconsistent with the goals of our great nation."

President George Bush addressed the crowd by telephone hook-up, and a number of members of Congress were there in person to encourage pro-lifers to continue to work for protective legislation.

During the rally Rep. Henry Hyde was presented a petition signed by over one million Americans, which he will use to show fellow legislators that there is a groundswell of support for laws that will protect unborn babies from abortion.



**Handbells ring at Gulfshore**

**State Handbell Festivals** were held this year at Mississippi College and Gulfshore Assembly. A total of 42 handbell choirs participated with a total of 483 ringers. Mary Kay Parrish from Oklahoma Baptist University was the guest clinician at Gulfshore and Christine Anderson from Houston, Texas was the guest clinician at Mississippi College. Jerry Talley, handbell contract consultant for the Church Music Department, was the coordinator. L. Graham Smith is director of Church Music Department, MBCB.

Pictured are ringers at the mass concert at Gulfshore Assembly. — Photo by Larrimore

## Educators to focus on progress

NEW ORLEANS (BP) — Religious educators from across the Southern Baptist Convention will focus on progress when they convene for their annual meeting in New Orleans June 10-11.

"The '90s ... A Decade of Progress" will be the theme for the 35th meeting of the Southern Baptist Religious Education Association, announced President Bob Edd Shotwell, minister of education and administration at Hyde Park Baptist Church in Austin, Texas.

The meeting will be held in the

Sheraton Hotel the two days prior to the SBC annual meeting, also in New Orleans.

The progress theme will be illustrated through the topics of four conference sessions, Shotwell said. The religious educators will examine progress in their profession, staff relationships, ministerial calling, and family life.

The meeting's keynote address, "Religious Education in the '90s," will be presented by Bill Taylor, associate pastor of Prestonwood Church in Dallas.

## Forum: "Recapture the Future"

NASHVILLE (BP) — "Recapture the Future" will be the theme for the Southern Baptist Forum when it convenes in New Orleans this summer.

The Forum will meet at 9 a.m. and 2 p.m. June 11 in the Saenger Theatre at 143 Ramparts St. in downtown New Orleans. It is among at least 15 meetings held in conjunction with the Southern Baptist Convention annual meeting in New Orleans June 12-14.

"The theme of recapturing the future means we have a challenge to recall the past as we embrace the future," said Jon Stubblefield, pastor of First Church of Shreveport, La., and chair of the Forum steering committee.

"We need to return to our roots and ponder the genius of our denomination's founding fathers. Moreover, we need to reclaim the vision of Bold Mission Thrust (the SBC's global missions/evangelism campaign). The decade of the '90s is a time to recapture the future."

The Forum will feature six major

addresses, presented by Randall Lolley, pastor of First Church of Greensboro, N.C.; Herbert Reynolds, president of Baylor University in Waco, Texas; Carolyn Weatherford Crumpler of Cincinnati, retired executive director of the SBC Woman's Missionary Union; John Killenger, distinguished professor of religion and culture at Samford University in Birmingham, Ala.; and Frank Pollard, pastor of First Church of Jackson, Miss.

"Recapture the Future" also will be interpreted by five 10- to 15-minute worship segments, called "Recounters," that will include special music and Scripture reading, Stubblefield said.

Based on the third and fourth chapters of the biblical book of I Corinthians, the Recounters will focus on "Partners Together with God," "Christ, the Foundation," "God's Spirit in You," "You Belong to Christ" and "Giving Yourself Fully to the Work of the Lord."

## Clower will address DOMs

NEW ORLEANS (BP) — Humorist Jerry Clower of Yazoo City, Miss., will be the keynote speaker during the annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Conference of Directors of Missions, scheduled June 10-11.

The Conference of Directors of Missions is one of the meetings held in advance of the annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention, scheduled June 12-14 in the Louisiana Superdome in New Orleans.

The Directors of Missions will meet

from 1 p.m. Sunday, June 10, until noon Monday, June 11, in the Landmark Hotel, I-10 and Causeway Boulevard, Metairie, a suburb of New Orleans.

Russell Bennett, director of missions of the Long Run Association in Louisville, Ky., is the president of the organization. Glenn Hickey, director of missions in Pulaski Association, Little Rock, Ark., is first vice president; Ken Chadwick, director of missions, Salt Lake Association, Salt Lake City, is second vice president.

# Peyote decision can affect future cases

**WASHINGTON (BP)** — The U.S. Constitution does not require a state to allow the religious use of the drug peyote, the Supreme Court has ruled.

In an April 17 decision, the high court held the state of Oregon not only can prohibit the use of peyote but also can deny unemployment compensation to individuals dismissed from their jobs for using the drug.

The case involved two drug rehabilitation counselors who were fired for using peyote as part of Native American Church ceremonies. When Alfred Smith and Galen Black applied for unemployment compensation from Oregon's Employment Division, they were turned down because they had been discharged for work-related misconduct.

The Oregon Court of Appeals reversed the decision, holding the denial of benefits violated the men's free exercise of religion rights. The Oregon Supreme Court agreed that benefits should be paid.

In 1987, the nation's highest court heard the case, which it sent back to the Oregon Supreme Court for determination of whether the sacramental use of peyote was prohibited under Oregon's controlled substance law.

The Oregon Supreme Court held such use of the drug did fall within the state law's prohibition. But the state court also held the law to be invalid in light of the First Amendment's free exercise clause.

The case then went back to the U.S. Supreme Court, which heard a second round of oral arguments last November.

Writing for the court's majority, Justice Antonin Scalia said, "If prohibiting the exercise of religion is . . . merely the incidental effect of a generally applicable and otherwise valid provision, the First Amendment has not been offended."

He added: "We have never held that an individual's religious beliefs excuse him from compliance with an otherwise valid law prohibiting what the state is free to regulate . . . .

"The only decisions in which we have held that the First Amendment bars application of a neutral, generally applicable law to religiously motivated action have involved not the free exercise clause alone, but the free exercise clause in conjunction with other constitutional protections, such as freedom of speech and of the press."

Although concurring with the majority's judgment in the case, Justice Sandra Day O'Connor wrote a lengthy opinion opposing most of Scalia's arguments.

"In my view, today's holding dramatically departs from well-settled First Amendment jurisprudence, appears unnecessary to resolve the question presented and is incompatible with our nation's fundamental commitment to individual religious liberty," O'Connor began.

Because the First Amendment does not distinguish between religious belief and religious conduct, O'Connor said, both must be at least presumptively protected by the free exercise clause. But, she added, the court's majority now has interpreted the clause to permit the government without justification to prohibit religious conduct, so long as the prohibition is generally applicable.

O'Connor flatly rejected Scalia's contention that a "compelling state interest" test should not be applied to most free exercise of religion cases.

In its 1963 decision in *Sherbert v. Verner*, the Supreme Court set forth a test requiring that governmental actions that substantially burden a religious practice must be justified by a compelling governmental interest.

But in his April 17 opinion, Scalia argued the *Sherbert* test should be applied only in unemployment compensation cases.

"The government's ability to enforce generally applicable prohibitions of socially harmful conduct, like its ability to carry out other aspects of public policy, cannot depend on measuring the effects of a governmental action on a religious objector's spiritual development," Scalia wrote. "To make an individual's obligation to obey such a law contingent upon the law's coincidence with his religious beliefs, except where the state's interest is compelling — permitting him, by virtue of his beliefs, to become a law unto himself — contradicts both constitutional tradition and common sense."

Such application of a compelling state interest requirement would produce a "constitutional anomaly," opening the prospect of constitutionally required religious exemptions from almost every conceivable kind of civic obligation, Scalia said.

O'Connor wrote, however, that the compelling interest test "reflects the First Amendment's mandate of preserving religious liberty to the fullest extent possible in a pluralistic society. For the court to deem this command a 'luxury' is to denigrate the very purpose of the Bill of Rights."

The First Amendment, she argued, at least requires a case-by-case determination of whether the burden on specific plaintiffs is constitutionally significant and whether the particular state interest is compelling.

"The court today gives no convincing reason to depart from settled First Amendment jurisprudence," O'Connor wrote. "There is nothing talismanic about neutral laws of general applicability or general criminal prohibitions, for laws neutral toward religion can coerce a person to violate his religious conscience or intrude upon his religious duties just as effectively as laws aimed at religion."

In addition, O'Connor rejected Scalia's claim that generally applicable laws are "one large step" removed from laws aimed at specific religious practices.

"Our free exercise cases have all concerned generally applicable laws that had the effect of significantly burdening a religious practice," she wrote. "If the First Amendment is to have any vitality, it ought not be construed to cover only the extreme and hypothetical situation in which a state directly targets a religious practice."

The court's decision is a dangerous one that has serious implications for all laws affecting churches, said Oliver S. Thomas, general counsel for the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs.

"Taxation of church assets, regulation of church schools and child-care centers, zoning and other land-use questions are all areas of the law where we've relied upon the compelling state interest test to provide churches with exemptions," Thomas said. "With a stroke of his pen, Justice Scalia has overturned 27 years of legal precedent and made the 'first liberty' a constitutional stepchild."



## Faces and places

by Anne Washburn McWilliams



### "The floods came . . ."

*And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house . . . (Matt. 7:25).*

Saturday morning I planted impatiens in pots on the patio, and the dogwood tree I'd planned to plant on Earth Day.

Saturday afternoon I was getting ready to go to the grocery store when I heard the thunder. Then the rain came. Lightning cracked so nearby that I dashed into the den to see if it had hit W.D. He was kneeling by the front door with a batch of towels.

We live on a slope, and our front walk is like the tip of a funnel. Water was pouring underneath the front door. My husband with many towels was not stopping the flow, only dividing it into tributaries. I grabbed more towels, even some of the new unused ones I got for Christmas.

He began to mop water and squeeze it into a giant pan. I rolled back the rugs, but it was too late. They were not soaked, but they were damp. Water rolled across the parquet floor of the living room and puddled behind the couch against the wall. It seeped under the wall, and moved on into the den and surged into the crevices of its vinyl bricks.

I moved chairs and couches. I didn't

know where to step next, with all the electric cords lying in water. We mopped and squeezed and swept until we dropped. The rain stopped. W.D. washed and dried all the towels, and I straightened the furniture.

I went to the grocery store and returned home. Then the rain began again. I was sitting on the couch in the den eating a tuna fish sandwich when I felt water trickling under my bare feet. It was coming in again! We resumed the battle. While I was mopping under a window by the fireplace, I felt a drop of water on my head. We'd had our roof covered only a few weeks ago, and I guess the roofer missed a spot. Water was pouring between the molding and the wall and streaming down the paneling. At that point, you might say, I threw in the towel.

If you see Noah, tell him I'm beginning to understand what he lived through.

#### It's Topisaw (Lincoln)

Things are not always what they appear to be. Though the place, Topisaw, is listed in my postal guide in Pike County, the Topisaw Baptist Church is in Lincoln County. In my article last week about a ministry in the Prentiss

jail, I said that the church is in Pike County. I apologize, Topisaw members!

#### Somebody missed me!

Thanks, Jack and Geneva Laird, of Union, for saying you missed my column in the May 3 issue! I'm really glad somebody did.

#### Time.

We're not accepting poems for "Scrapbook" any more. However, Erma Jewel Crowe of Greenville sent me a poem the other day, not for publication, but with a note that she hoped it might bless my day. It did — so much that I want to share it. (She reserves the copyright.)

*There's time enough for everything  
In life upon the earth,  
A time for laughter, joy, and song,  
A time for death and birth.*

*There's time enough to do his will,  
To seek God's strength and face,  
To love, conform, to serve our Lord  
At heaven's ordered pace.*

*For all our times are in his hands,  
A term of tear or smile,  
Our seasons planned to walk with God  
To make our life worthwhile.*

## Radio-TV elects Johnson director

(Continued from page 3)

by synergism — working together.

Johnson noted he had radio experience as a pastor and some "intermittent" television association in Arizona.

"But a good leader will surround himself with people who have skills he doesn't have," he said.

Several of the commissioners asked questions about his plans for the future, why he would want to leave Arizona, how to improve relations with other SBC agencies, interpersonal relationships and his doctrinal stance.

Johnson said he "was an inerrantist before it became popular" but wouldn't disagree with someone who has a different interpretation of Scripture.

Asked about his weaknesses, Johnson said he tends to try to do too much and that he has a "flash point,"

but seldom displays it publicly. "But I also don't have a problem with going to someone and saying I am sorry," he added.

The commissioners discussed the recommendation that they elect Johnson for almost an hour and a half behind closed doors before summoning him and others back into the room to ask him to clarify why he resigned as an RTVC commissioner in 1985 and about a statement he had made in his presentation about hiring his son-in-law at the commission if he were elected.

Johnson said he resigned in 1985 because the Arizona convention was in a period of cutback and the RTVC was having a series of called meetings and he couldn't give it the time required.

He said he would hire his son-in-law, Steven Wayne Pearson, minister of education at First Southern Baptist

Church, Scottsdale, Ariz., because he is qualified. "It's not cronyism when he is qualified," he noted.

Johnson said, however, that if the commission established a policy of not hiring relatives, he would follow it.

A second closed door session was called to discuss the election further and to take the ballot. After 10 minutes, Hamlet summoned Johnson and others back into the meeting and announced Johnson's election.

Hamlet praised the efforts of Richard T. McCartney who has served the past year as acting president. "There is no way to express the gratitude of this board for what you have done," he told McCartney, who received a standing ovation.

McCartney and his wife were named the commission's representatives to the Baptist World Alliance in Seoul, Korea, in August.

## Land protests homosexuals at White House

**NASHVILLE (BP)** — Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission Executive Director Richard Land is asking Southern Baptists to write President George Bush and express outrage over a White House invitation to representatives of homosexual organizations.

The representatives were invited to witness Bush's signing at the White House of new federal legislation requiring records on hate crimes. That meeting occurred April 24.

Afterwards, The Washington Post quoted Robert Bray of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force as saying, "We were stunned. No president has ever invited a group of gay and lesbian activists to the White House.

We think the president sent a very clear message to bigots and bashers

that he will not tolerate violence" against gays and lesbians.

Land said in a letter to Bush on April 30: "We do not want hate crimes either. Such acts of violence against people are wrong. It is quite another matter, however, for the president of the United States to invite leaders of homosexual and lesbian groups to be invited guests at an official White House ceremony precisely because they represent such groups.

"Such an action provides an implicit White House approbation of their lifestyle and it is something no previous administration has done."

Land said, "The White House should not be giving its sanction and implicit approval to such groups."

"The presidency, as Theodore Roosevelt so aptly noted, is a 'bully'

pulpit.' In allowing that pulpit to be used in this way, you have compromised your attempts to portray your administration as pro-family and you have diminished both the presidency and your administration," Land said.

"The question of the invitation was raised later at a White House briefing," Land said. "The White House staff responded that support for the invitation was far from unanimous, but that evangelicals and others concerned about the invitation should write the President directly about the matter."

To write to Bush, letters should be addressed as follows: The President; The White House; Washington, D.C. 20500. The White House Comment Line is (202) 456-7639.

# Just for the Record



First Church, Hattiesburg, Pioneer RAs collected T-shirts and tennis shoes for Belize. Left to right are Tom Hickman, Owen Munton, Joey Brister, and David Furr.



First Church, Hattiesburg's Pioneer RAs have been Lebanon associational basketball champs for two consecutive years. Left to right are Chad Britt, Michael Robinson, and Robert Owen.

## Hattiesburg Pioneers participate in multiple missions projects

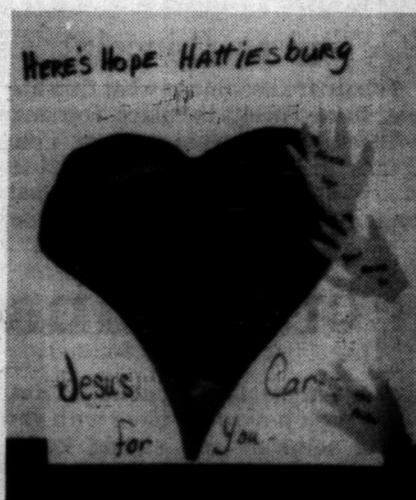
The Royal Ambassador program in the local church teaches boys about missions and involves boys in doing missions. The Pioneer Chapter of RAs at First Church, Hattiesburg, has taken those two tasks seriously this year.

The three special mission studies have been highlighted in various ways. Several projects pointed toward the importance of meeting world hunger needs around the world — and in Hattiesburg. Using the program materials, the boys have studied writing and sharing their personal testimonies, witnessing to others, using a marked New Testament, and the role of intercessory prayer.

Mission Action projects have been important in balancing the "being and doing" of missions. The boys have shared in several ways with the home-bound members, visited the hospitals, visited a local soup kitchen, participated in the "Here's Hope" Scripture distribution, sent T-shirts and tennis shoes to boys in Belize; and several are to be involved this summer in mission VBS on the Coast with the Vietnamese, and in Belize.

Special interest studies and activities have included making camping/cooking equipment and demonstrating it to younger RAs;

viewing videos about various mission points; working on projects for church-wide mission emphases; hearing Carey baseball and basketball coaches talk about the Christian influence/patterns of living they teach their teams; learning fishing tips from an expert fisherman; learning some first aid basics; dipping candies for senior adults; and participating in the Church League for Pioneers, winning it for the second consecutive year, reports their leader, Bill Crider.



RAs made "Here's Hope, Hattiesburg" posters for evangelistic crusade.

## Women speak, sing in "Woman's Day" at High Hill

High Hill Church, Philadelphia, observed "Woman's Day" on May 6. Five women spoke during the morning worship service on the topic, "A Woman's Place," and a quartet of women presented special music. Women filled the choir.

Women who spoke and their individual topics included Dodie Davidson, "A Woman's Place as Wife and Mother;" Debbie Gilmore, "A Woman's Place at Work;" Frances Henderson, "A Woman's Place as Grandmother;" Pam Hudson, "A Woman's Place as Deacon's Wife;" and Louise Leber, wife of the pastor, Paul Leber, "A Woman's Place to Make a Difference."

The four who presented special music were Jeralyn Perkins, Betty Brewer, Sara Davidson, and Michelle Perkins.

Jean Day read the Scripture selection, Proverbs 31:10-31, and led in prayer.

## Mississippi Baptist activities

May 20	Baptist Radio and Television Sunday (DBS Emphasis)
May 21	"Let's All Go to Church" Conference; FBC, Oxford; 8:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m. (CAPM)
May 21-27	Associational Emphasis Week (HMB Emphasis)
May 22	"Let's All Go to Church" Conference; Woodland Hills BC, Jackson; 8:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m. (CAPM)
May 24	"Let's All Go to Church" Conference; FBC, Hattiesburg; 8:30-4:00 p.m. (CAPM)

Woolmarket Church Brotherhood roofing team, Biloxi, some of their wives, and two members from Bay Vista Church, Biloxi, recently traveled to Carrollton to frame up, black in, roof, insulate, and wire the new addition to Liberty Church.

The Woolmarket Church Brotherhood roofed seven churches and four homes last year.



Memorial Day will be observed May 20 at Shiloh Church and cemetery in Montgomery County. Song service will begin at 10:30 a.m., preaching service at 11 a.m. and dinner on the grounds at noon. Singing after lunch. Frank Roberson, pastor.

Macedonia Church, Meridian, will have a note burning, May 27 at 1:30 p.m. Sunday School will be at 9:45 a.m. and morning worship at 11. A fellowship meal will be served at noon. After the note burning there will be special music and speakers in fellowship hall.

Clarke College Church Related Vocation and Ministerial Students gathered in the campus cafeteria for an annual banquet held in their honor, April 20. Special guests for this occasion were Mr. and Mrs. Hollis Bryant, consultant, Cooperative Missions Department, MBCB, and Guy Henderson, director, Evangelism Department, MBCB.



George Cornett, right, pastor of Calvary Church, Gulfport, is pictured receiving a check for \$2,400 to be used for replacement of windows in their church building. Chaplain Ed Holmes, convention board member made the presentation on behalf of the church building and pastoral aid committee, MBCB.

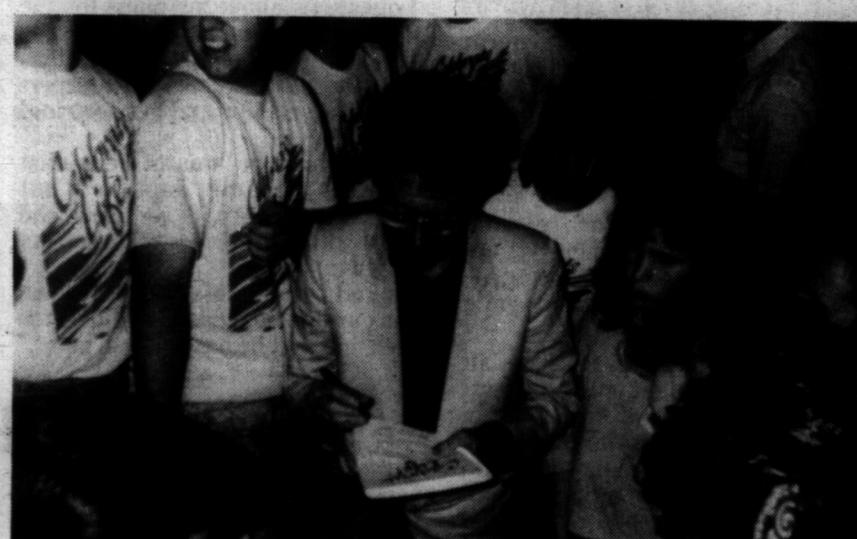
Funds for this project were made possible through gifts to the Margaret Lackey State Missions Offering. Bobby Perry is director of missions, Gulf Coast Association.

Calvary Church in Waynesboro recently completed its "Prospecting for God" Sunday School enrollment emphasis. It consisted of two phases. The first segment focused on prospect discovery. The second segment focused on enrolling prospects in Bible study. The campaign ended with a high enrollment day.

During the six-week campaign Sunday School enrollment increased 10 percent, said Rob Payne, minister of music and education. Arthur Lee Nored is Sunday School director, and Doug Broome is pastor.

McAdams Church, Attala County, has adopted a resolution of appreciation for Levon Moore, who recently completed an interim pastorate there of 6½ months.

Concord Church, Booneville, will have a Lay Renewal Weekend, May 25-27. Dewayne Morgan is the church coordinator and Dub Herring, Picayune, is the coordinator for the weekend. Rev. Bill Dowdy is pastor. Team members from Florida, Tennessee, Louisiana, and Alabama will be joining other team members from Mississippi.



Composer and conductor Buryl Red of New York, signs autographs following a recent production of his updated version of "Celebrate Life" at New Orleans Seminary. Performing the Christian musical were 250 teenagers from churches throughout Louisiana and Mississippi. (Photo by Ed Shirley)

## Churches in Lamar Association will participate in world missions conferences

Lamar association is hosting eight foreign, home, and state missionaries from the World Mission Conference planned for May 20-27. The theme is "The world is coming to Lamar Association."

The missionaries who will be speaking at 14 participating churches and to various organizations and groups

are: Bruce D. Bass, HMB; K. Bedford Huston, HMB; J. Earl Posey, Jr., FMB; William L. Walker, FMB; Roger L. Swann, FMB; and three Mississippi appointed workers, Dottie Williamson, Paul Harrell, and Jim Didlake. Church schedules will be announced locally. Douglas E. Benedict is director of missions.

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WATER PARK RETREAT — Swimming, giant waterslides, putt-putt, paddleboats, picnic/camping. Grills/tables/covered pavilions. Open weekends now. Starting May 26 open daily. Pep's Point, Hwy 49 North, Hattiesburg. Group rates, (601) 582-8461.

## Autumn Fest planned for senior adults

Senior adults will be leading senior adults at the first ever Autumn Fest at Gulfshore Baptist Assembly, Oct. 8-12.

This Senior Adult Autumn Fest will include Bible study, a golf tourney, history, The Oaks, and space center tours, and a cruise to Ship Island.

Frank Stagg will lead sessions entitled "The Bible Speaks for Adults with Seniority." Stagg is retired as distinguished professor of New Testament at Southern Seminary. He is author of "The Bible and Aging."

Leading sessions for leaders of senior adults will be Horace Kerr, retired from the Baptist Sunday School Board in Senior Adult Ministry. He is author of "How to Minister to Senior Adults."

Genter Stephens, retired from New Orleans Seminary, will be music leader.

Musicians include Jennie Lou Breland on piano and violin, who is retired from the music faculty of William Carey College, and Dot Pray, organist. Mrs. Pray is a contract music consultant for the MBCB's Church Music Department.

"King David" will lead the morning watch periods on the dock. He will be portrayed by Lowery Comperre, retired president of Clarke College.

And special guest will be Pat Guldridge, retired churchman and farmer, author of "The Local Church and Its Aging Membership — A Primer."

Cost will be \$150 per person, with a \$30 deposit which goes toward the total cost. Reservations may be made after June 1 at Gulfshore Baptist Assembly, Henderson Point, Pass Christian, MS 39571. Deadline is Sept. 7 after which no refunds will be made.

Organizer J. Clark Hensley, contract consultant for a senior adult ministry at the Convention Board, reports weather should be highs in the 80s and lows in the mid-50s.

## Chaplains' retreat:

The Mississippi Baptist Chaplains' retreat was held May 4-5 at Gulfshore Baptist Assembly. Grady Cothen, retired president of the Baptist Sunday School Board, was guest speaker. Ronnie Cottingham, music evangelist from Lucedale, led music. Current officers are Gordon Shambarger, Mississippi Baptist Medical Center, president; Ed Holmes, Veterans' Administration Hospital, Gulfport, vice president; Steve West, Air National Guard, Forest, secretary; and Joe Stovall, Mississippi Baptist Medical Center, editor.

## Names in the news



Betty Hudson (Bubbles) of Harrisburg Church in Tupelo, checks her makeup before hitting the streets of Nashville as a Christian clown. Hudson was among more than 100 participants of a national clowning seminar sponsored by the Sunday School Board's Church Recreation Department in late March. Photo by Terri Lackey.



McCoy

years.



Scott Crawford, right, of Pearl, is pictured receiving a Certificate of License to preach from Tommy Anderson, left, pastor of Emmanuel Church of Pearl. Crawford is presently attending New Orleans Seminary. He will be a church planter this summer in Iowa returning in August. He may be contacted for future engagements at 939-4075.

## Homecomings

New Harmony Church (Neshoba County) recently held an ordination service for its deacons. Pictured, from left, are Jerry White, David Breazeale, and Waggoner White. Charles McCollum is pastor.

Richard J. Hill, DeKalb pastor, has been selected for inclusion in the new publication, Who's Who in Mississippi, for "outstanding achievements and service in the field of church and youth work."

Wayside Church, Scooby (Yalobusha): May 20; 10 a.m. until 4 p.m.; covered dish on grounds; afternoon singing, 1 p.m.; no night services; Hal Bates, Meadowood Church, Amory, guest speaker; David Norris, pastor.

Sandridge Church, Lake (Scott): May 20; Sunday School, 10 a.m., worship, 11 a.m., dinner on the grounds, singing following lunch featuring the Harvest Quartet; Ray Mosley, preaching; Timmy Fanguy, pastor.

Elam Church (Yalobusha): May 27; Jimmy Martin, pastor, message at 11 a.m.; lunch at noon; singing in the afternoon featuring Rufus Ross.

Antioch Church, Monticello: homecoming, May 27; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; worship, 11 a.m.; Mrs. Edwin Alderman, speaking; noon meal served in fellowship hall; singing in afternoon; offering will be taken for cemetery; John D. Hedgepeth, pastor.

Rock Hill Church (Rankin): May 27; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; worship, 11 a.m.; lunch at noon; fellowship in afternoon; C. Z. Holland, former pastor, morning message; Tim Canterbury, pastor.

Thursday, May 17, 1990

BAPTIST RECORD PAGE 11

## Local ACTS presents awards

A number of Mississippi Baptist churches and local ACTS boards were honored with awards during the fourth annual Mississippi Baptists in Broadcasting meeting at Calvary Church, Jackson.

Names of the awards and winners are Best Program — Missions/Evangelism: Cable 6, First Church, Hattiesburg, for "The Sword Christmas Special;"

Best Program — Church Musical: First Church, Jackson, for "Carols By Candlelight, 1989;"

Best Program-Human Interest: ACTS of Laurel, for "The Championship Road;"

Best Program — Community Service/Sports: ACTS of Laurel, for "Football '89;"

Best Television Spot: Highland Church, Laurel, for "Easter Promo;"

Creative Use of Television: Highland Church, Laurel, for "Easter Promo."

One award was presented for radio: Best Radio Program — Missions/Evangelism: Leesburg Church, Leesburg, for "The Bible Seeding Broadcast."

One of the primary objectives of Mississippi Baptists in Broadcasting is recognition of outstanding work in radio and television by churches, associations, or local ACTS boards.

The MBIB planning committee included Bob Nace, Cleveland; Steve Guidry and Pam Mitchell, Jackson; Merle Guyton and Kurt Brautigan, Hattiesburg; Jim Phillips, Tupelo; and Leon Young, Meridian.

Farrell Blankenship directs the Broadcast Services Department of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board which sponsors the work.

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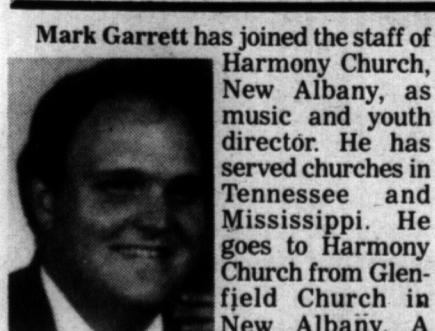
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Mark Garrett has joined the staff of Harmony Church, New Albany, as music and youth director. He has served churches in Tennessee and Mississippi. He goes to Harmony Church from Glenfield Church in New Albany. A graduate of University of Mississippi, Garrett is employed at Union County Baptist Memorial Hospital. Robert L. Daniels is pastor.

John R. Woods has resigned Hurricane Church, Attala Association. Ricky Summers, who served as assistant pastor, has been called as pastor, effective May 6.

L. Edward Gandy, pastor of First Church, Kosciusko, for 13 years, has accepted the call to serve as director of missions for Alcorn Association, effective June 1. He will follow Nat Mayhall who has recently retired.

Norris Curry has accepted the call as pastor of Washington Church, Washington, effective May 1. Curry moves from First Church, Kentwood, La., where he served as associate pastor. He is a graduate of Northwestern Louisiana State University, Natchitoches, and New Orleans Seminary. He has had two years of clinical pastoral training at Central State Hospital in Pineville, La., and one year of clinical training for substance abuse at Southeastern State Hospital in Jackson, La.

## Monticello Church pays off notes two years after entering building



Brantley B. Pace, M.D., left, chairman of the Church Building Committee, and James P. Fancher, pastor, burn the notes at Monticello Church.

April 22, two years after moving into its new building, Monticello Church, Monticello, held a note burning ceremony signifying that the church had completed payments on the notes at Deposit Guaranty National Bank

and at First Bank, both of Monticello. The cost was around \$1,575,000 for the building and its contents, including furnishings and stained glass windows.

A "Pay Off the Building Day" program included music by Mrs. Marguerite Rutledge and Mrs. Marilyn McLain, instrumentalists; the choir; and Rob Robbins, minister of music. James P. Fancher, pastor, introduced Brantley B. Pace, chairman of the Church Building Committee, who led in the note burning service.

In March of 1986 the church approved plans for the new building drawn by architect J. W. McClesky. In October of that same year, the church accepted the low bid from McLain and Barnes Construction Company for the actual building, and ground was broken.

George W. Waldrop, Expressive Stained Glass, Byhalia, was the artist who created the stained glass windows.

Members of the Finance Committee included Frank Allen, Ron Reeves, Ray Poole, and Jim Todd.

## *Q & A on drugs . . .*

### Q. What can we do in our church to help with the "war on drugs?"

A. The answer is very easy — get involved. Everybody wants to say that we are lucky we don't live in New York City, Los Angeles, New Orleans, or some other big city that has a drug problem. We are only fooling ourselves, and our problems continue to grow. Until we here in Mississippi admit that there is a problem, nothing can or will be done. The drug problem is here in Mississippi, in the cities and small towns. The patients we see at the Chemical Dependency Center didn't just start using drugs recently. Drugs have been here for years, but we are now beginning to admit it. The first thing we must realize is that the problem is not someone else's — it is our problem. We all know people that have a problem with drugs (alcohol is a drug).

We have gone to many churches in Mississippi and have done programs on the drug problems. Almost every time, someone comes to me after the program to tell me they have no problem in their community. I do not try to convince them, even if we have treated many people from that community. These people will never admit it until it hits home, until they have to get help for a family member or loved one.

We see families still denying that there is a problem when their family

member is dying — this is part of the disease. I pray that it does not have to be for someone to die before the families see the problem. We admit teenagers who have been drinking and using drugs since the age of 12. It is going to take getting involved. It is going to take calling our friends and letting them know their child is using drugs. It is going to take loving someone enough to risk your friendship to help save a life. Drug addiction can't and won't "just go away." It takes treatment. Baptists are very fortunate to have a facility that has been treating people since 1976. These lives have been saved, families saved, and souls saved. So many of our patients have become strong members of our churches with so much to offer. These are people who have been to the gates of hell only to be saved and then give back what God has given to them.

By Don Nerren, chaplain, Mississippi Baptist Chemical Dependency Center, 1225 N. State St., Jackson, MS 39202 (968-1102 or 800-962-6868).

Please send all your questions about drug and alcohol dependency to Chaplain Don Nerren, 1225 N. State St., Jackson, MS 39202-2002, or call toll free outside Jackson at 1-800-962-6868 or in Jackson at 968-1102. All questions will be answered in letter form whether or not they appear in this column.

## Missionary news

J. Robert Covington, retired Southern Baptist missionary to the Bahamas, Spain, and Holland, died May 3 after a long illness. He was 72. Covington, of Paducah, Ky., and his wife, the former Laurie Burnette of Fulton County, Ky., became missionary associates in 1976 and retired in 1983. Covington helped lead the Central Baptist Church in Nassau to self-support during his four-year term there. He most recently had been pastor of Moscow (Ky.) Church.

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## Freedom

(Continued from page 2)

Another apparently healthy editor died of a heart attack before retirement time. A third was hospitalized with bouts of severe depression. There are evidences of intimidation being attempted on Baptist Press, the nationwide news gathering and disseminating agency.

Among Baptists, that is frightening, indeed, and completely out of order.

It should not be allowed to go on; but again, the journalists feel that any obstacles encountered in the performance of their work are their problems and not those of their readers.

Baptist Press, however, is the brainchild of the editors and the product of the editors' insistence.

That sort of activity bothers us considerably.

## Dates changed for bivocational meetings

An erroneous date was given and another date has been changed in the recent announcement of meetings for bivocational ministers.

The meeting at Moselle Church, Moselle, will take place on June 15, not June 19 as reported. It will be at 6:30 p.m. And the meeting at Bond Church, Wiggins, will take place on May 18 at 7 p.m., a change from the original date and time of May 19 at 8:30 a.m.

Other dates and places for meetings of bivocational ministers and their spouses are May 25 at 6:30 p.m. at Pleasant Valley Church, Meadville; June 2 at 9 a.m. at Traceway Restaurant, Mathiston; June 22 at 6:30 p.m. at Loxahoma Church, Senatobia; June 23 at 8:30 a.m. at Crestwood Church, Booneville; and June 30 at 8 a.m. at Shoney's Restaurant at Greenwood.

## Senior Adult Corner



Mrs. Lillie Moore, who will be 92 in September, pieced at least nine quilt tops this winter, such as the one displayed here, and has already quilted two of them. She gives away the quilts she makes as love offerings. In summer, she does her quilting on her front porch. As she lives alone, she does her own housework and cooking. "She never misses church or Sunday School at Sardis Lake Church," reports Earnestine Dodd.



The senior adult choir, Saints Alive, of Harmony Church, Laurel, will sing a special concert, Tuesday evening, during the senior adult conference at Gulfshore Assembly, May 21-23.

They have adopted a policy, "Have song, will travel" (except on Sunday), and have accepted more than 40 singing engagements in the 20 months they have been organized. Al Mosley is pastor. Buddy McElroy is the music director.

## Off the Record

Off the coast of Oregon, a ship collided with a fishing boat in heavy fog. No real damage was done, but as the offending ship tried to back off, it banged into the boat again. The captain was afraid he might have done some damage with the second blow.

"Can you stay afloat?" he shouted through a megaphone to the floundering victim.

"I guess so," called back the skipper of the boat. "Do you want to try again?"

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But in June, the Crescent City will offer even more than this when it hosts the Woman's Missionary Union annual meeting and the Southern Baptist Convention.

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Meet me June 10-11 at the New Orleans Convention Center for the WMU annual meeting. Meet me June 12-14 at the Superdome for the SBC.

Together, we can make a difference!

*Dellene N. O'Brien*  
Executive Director  
Woman's Missionary Union, SBC

# Students spend spring break in Smokies, in work gloves

By Donna-Michelle Manning

While most University of Southern Mississippi students were packing their bikinis and suntan oil and heading to the beach for spring break, a few were packing old clothes and work gloves and traveling to the mountains of Tennessee.

The Spring Break Mission '90 team, made up of members of the USM Baptist Student Union, went to Jefferson City, in the Smoky Mountains, to finish building a church and to repair a shelter for the homeless.

The 10-member team consisted of freshman Danielle Torres of Harvey, La.; sophomores Jessica Atteberry of Milton, Fla., and Tiffany Downs of Mandeville, La.; juniors Melody Miles of Biloxi; Joanna Gerald of New Augusta; Jonathan D. Kittrell of Hattiesburg; and Donna-Michelle Manning of Hurley; and senior Stacy Broadwater of Cleveland.

The students were accompanied by USM BSU associate director Dennis Atwood and director Marilyn Bedford.

Miss Atteberry was excited on the trip to Jefferson City.

"I was excited because we were going to work with people and serve God," she said. "I was upset because I wouldn't be able to sing or lead choruses the way I planned, but I knew that God would use me anyway." Miss Atteberry, a broadcast journalism major, had been put on a two-week vocal rest by her doctor the week before spring break.

Preparations for the trip began last April when Mrs. Bedford asked Kittrell to check out Jefferson City as a possible SPOTS spot. SPOTS, he said, stands for Special Projects Other Than Summer. Kittrell, who went to Jefferson City as a summer missionary, came back with the pros and cons of sending a spring break mission team there.

Kittrell said the BSU Executive



USM BSU team in Tennessee: Front row, left to right — Jean-Ann Breedon, Samaritan House manager; Melody Miles, Donna-Michelle Manning, Jim Wilson. Second row, left to right — Danielle Torres, Tiffany Downs, Jessica Atteberry, JoAnna Gerald. Third row, left to right — Stacy Broadwater, Colleen Brown, Jon Kittrell.

Council voted on Jefferson City because there was a definite need there. The need turned out to be Fellowship Church and the Samaritan House. At the church, the mission team spread cement over the walls to prevent water from seeping in and then painted the two-story building a clean, shiny white.

The church, adopted by the Carson-Newman College BSU of Jefferson City, has become one of the many projects of the Appalachian Outreach Ministry of the college. Carson-Newman BSUer Jimmy Williams, 20, is the church's interim pastor. He said the members were so discouraged at the beginning of the year that they

were considering closing the doors of the church permanently. But, with groups such as USM's BSU mission team bringing supplies and coming to finish building the church's sanctuary, the members are getting their old spirit back.

The USM team provided the Sunday morning service for the church, followed by visitation in the Swannsylvania community where the church is located. One group visited a man who happened to be an electrician.

"I believe the Lord led us to Charlie Hawkins," said Stacy Broadwater, who visited Hawkins to invite him to

a pizza fellowship to be held after the Sunday night service. "He connected all the electrical wiring and put up the ceiling fans. You should have seen these people when the lights were turned on in their sanctuary."

While most of the students and the two directors were working on the church, a three-member team stayed behind in Jefferson City to help with Samaritan House.

The shelter is also a branch of the Carson-Newman College Appalachian Outreach Ministry. Since 1987, Samaritan House has served as a temporary shelter for homeless women and families.

"Last year we housed 78 families," said Samaritan House director Colleen Brown. "Samaritan House is the church's way of saying that we care if you're hungry, or hurting, or cold," Miss Brown said.

The teams at the shelter painted the porch and Miss Brown's office, cooked the meals for the group's nightly fellowship, dug a trench for a sidewalk, and cleaned what was referred to as "the dungeon" but was actually a small basement.

During the week the mission team worked and witnessed, but they also had some fun. Miss Atteberry and Atwood were interviewed by a local de-

jay after the Wednesday night service at First Church, Jefferson City. The interview was broadcast next morning.

The group also took an afternoon off and went sightseeing in Gatlinburg, a 45-minute drive away.

"Before we came on this trip I only knew a couple of people going," Miss Manning said. "But we've lived together for a week. We've worked together, and best of all we've prayed together.

"This was my first mission trip and I was scared at first, but I'm glad I went. I think we helped a lot of people and not only do I have closer friendships with the other members of the mission team, but I also left some new friends behind in Jefferson City," she said.

Atwood, who came to USM as BSU associate director in January said the work done in Tennessee could also be applied to the communities surrounding USM.

"There are needs in the surrounding community of the campus as far as the kinds of things we did," he said. "I think what is up to us now is to begin to look around and to ask questions. We need to look at how we can respond to those needs."

Manning is a student at USM.

## ICC student team witnesses door-to-door in North Carolina

By Wayne Vandiver

"Turning Point," the Itawamba Community College Baptist Student Union Ensemble, sings a song entitled "People All Over The World." The first line of the song states, "People all over the world need to know about Jesus." The ICC BSU spring break mission team was reminded of these words as they witnessed door-to-door in and around Beaufort, N.C. Wayne Vandiver, the ICC BSU director, carried 10 students and his family to this area March 9-17 for their third mission trip of the school year. He carried most of "Turning Point" and the BSU travel team. Not only did they get to share their faith in the local communities, they led in the worship services of several of the local churches. They also led the service at an associational youth rally.

The team members were Buddy Criddle, Houston; Jimmy Francis, Saltillo; Kevin Park, Pontotoc; Barry Jernigan, Hatley; Rachelle Joyner, Belden; Carolyn Peters, Tupelo; Suzanne Taylor, Sherman; Pam Guntharp, Fulton; Heather McMunigle, Pontotoc; and Bonny McCraw, Caledonia.

The area that the group worked in was made up of small communities and towns much like those of northeast Mississippi. However, that was just about the only similarity. The people, whose main occupation was commercial fishing, spoke with a British accent. The BSUers said that they would have been talking the

same way if they had stayed one more week.

The ICC group stayed in one of the chapels that week. The chapel, actually a three-bedroom house, was called East Carteret Chapel. The "sanctuary" was the garage of the house. They had some nice church pews, a piano, and even an organ. One of the sad things about most of the churches the group worked with was the lack of committed young people. One of the great things about these churches was their commitment to starting new churches.

The thought that was impressed upon this team during this missions experience was, "There are SO MANY people that need to hear the truth about Jesus Christ." These students paired up and covered whole communities along the North Carolina coast line. Their main responsibility was to share their faith with as many as would listen.

They also did some survey work and revival promotion for the "Here's Hope" revivals in the area churches. They ran across so many people that had no interest in hearing about Jesus, the church, or anything that had to do with religion.

Vandiver talked to one woman whose first words were, "What do you want from me?" Students reported that some folks would not even acknowledge their presence. Others said, "I know I'm going to hell, but I don't care!" So many people seemed

to be content with the way their life was without Christ!

Incidents that really made the team think were some encounters with Jehovah's Witnesses. Jimmy Francis and Bonny McCraw talked to a woman who wouldn't let them "get a word in edgeways." She "preached" to them about why they were wrong and the Jehovah's Witnesses were right in their doctrinal beliefs. As they reflected upon the incident, they both realized that they and most Baptists are not grounded in their doctrinal beliefs and the defense of them as they should be.

Vandiver is BSU director at Itawamba Community College.

## Missionary news

Diane Smith, missionary to the Ivory Coast, is on the field and may be addressed at Mission Baptiste, 01 BP 3722, Abidjan 01, Cote D'Ivoire. A native of Mississippi, she was born in Collins and considers Jackson her hometown.

Winston and Barbara Caperton, Baptist representatives to Israel, have arrived on the field to begin their first term of service (address: Ben Yehuda 72/3, Herzlia, Israel). He is a native of Noxapater, and she is the former Barbara Carter of Mercedes, Texas.

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# Winston County Baptists dedicate ministries center

By Anne W. McWilliams

"Jesus asks us to do simple, basic things like, 'Give a cup of cold water in my name,'" Ray Grissett pointed out to those assembled for the dedication of Winston County Baptists' Christian Ministries Center on April 22.

"This ministry must be unapologetically Christian, not just a humanitarian project," said Grissett, who is director of the Cooperative Missions Department, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.

Andrea Hemphill sang during the Sunday afternoon service. Kent Cochran, pastor of Calvary Church, Winston County, led in the Litany of Dedication; and Louise Hill Miller, director of the Christian Ministries Center, led in the closing prayer.

The Center opened in January of this year. Under the leadership of Jerry Stevens, director of missions, Winston Association had bought the house and an acre next door to its mission center, for \$40,000, to extend its ministry opportunities. The yard would give extra space for parking. The house had a room where literacy classes, Seminary Extension, and MasterLife and other conferences



The youngest person present for the dedication of the CMC was the granddaughter of the director of missions, Lauren Price, age 2 1/2.



Albert Young, Liberty Church, gave a sign.

could be held, plus ample space for a clothing and food ministry, and possibly a furniture ministry for people whose homes might burn.

Volunteers have been called the backbone of the Center's work. Mrs. Miller, the volunteer director, is a member of Murphy Creek Church and a former employee of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board in the Discipleship Training Department. Her volunteer assistant directors, Lucille and Lee Kirkpatrick of Noxapater Church, are retired school teachers.

Volunteers have helped put up lights, sort and hang clothes, build cabinets and shelves, make signs, and keep the Center going from week to week.

"Everybody has been so gracious about helping," said Mrs. Miller. She knows many of the people in the country and said no one has refused a request yet for some sort of service to the Center. And she added, "I have never asked the Lord for anything we didn't get."

The Center is open three days a week, from 9 to 12 a.m. and on one Saturday morning each month. Volunteers meet for a devotional time each day that they work; each Friday, they hear a pastor from one of the Winston churches.

Churches and individuals donate clothing and money for food to be given to persons and/or families in need. Food is bought at low prices through the Mississippi Food Network. Mrs. Miller writes thank you notes to those who contribute clothing, if she knows names and addresses of donors. Also she conceived an idea for record keeping. Daily transactions are hurriedly jotted in longhand, into a temporary notebook, and then transferred to a permanent notebook at night, or as time allows. She does this record keeping, with the help of Lucille Kirkpatrick.

The work of the ministries center has been announced on local radio stations.

Those referred to the Center for help are required to bring a letter from a pastor of a Winston County Baptist Church. However, sometimes aid has been given at the request of "a reliable person." One grandmother sent her grandson down to the Center and said, "Louise knows me, and she knows I am a reliable person," so the grandson received the clothing he needed!

The ministry is called Love InDeed, from I John 3:18, "My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue: but in deed and in truth." "We should endeavor not only to minister to individuals with clothing and food, but shall point them to the Lord Jesus Christ, ministering to the whole person," one brochure points out.

Mrs. Miller and Mrs. Kirkpatrick witness to clients and/or pray with them, while other volunteers, in another room, are praying for the witnesses. Also they distribute "Good News to You" tracts. Names of clients are sent to pastors and/or others for follow-up.

One to whom Mrs. Miller witnessed was an Indian woman. Later her family reported that the woman's life had completely changed since her visit to the Center, and that she kept saying, "I'm going to that church" (her husband's church).

"I believe that she has accepted Christ, and that is why her life is different now," said Mrs. Miller.

The possibilities of Love InDeed are many, and they have only just begun to be explored, Stevens indicated.



Louise Miller of Murphy Creek Church, director of the Christian Ministries Center, records one of the Center's daily happenings. Standing beside her is Jerry Stevens, director of missions, Winston Association.



Three volunteers who work often at the CMC are Maude Brown, First Church, Louisville; Ruby Jackson and Ruth Fulcher, Murphy Creek Church. In the background at left is Lucille Kirkpatrick of Noxapater Church, assistant director of the CMC.



Shirley Lee, Antioch Church, irons a donated garment while Ada Hickman, First Church, Louisville, gets ready to place the garment on a hanger.



Winston County Baptists' Christian Ministries Center is dedicated in an outdoor service on property next door to the Baptist Mission Center.



Lee Kirkpatrick, Noxapater Church, assistant director, CMC, stores food on the kitchen shelves at the Center.



Jerry Stevens and Lucille Kirkpatrick fold linens and store them on shelves. So far the Center does not have many linens, but a space has been provided, "just in case someone donates some."

## Live telecast of ACTS awards slated May 17

FORT WORTH, Texas — The fifth annual American Christian Television System Awards Ceremony will be televised live nationwide on ACTS from Travis Avenue Church, Fort Worth, at 9 p.m. Eastern Time May 17.

The awards ceremony — featuring performances by Christian singers Dave Boyer and Kathie Sullivan — recognizes ACTS affiliates (cable television stations and churches) for innovative and creative ways they are reaching out to their communities. Awards will be presented in

the areas of local television production, promotion, community service and channel management, said Michael Wright, executive producer.

Mrs. Sullivan received the 1988 Class Act Award from Moody Magazine for her recording "There's A Reason." Before beginning her solo ministry, she achieved national recognition as a soloist for the Lawrence Welk Show from 1976 to 1982.

Other awards presenters will in-

clude Richard McCartney, interim president of the Radio and Television Commission; Karen Hayter, host of "COPE," a live, call-in counseling show seen on ACTS; Ben Loring, a regular guest counselor on "COPE"; Mike Frazier, a former "COPE" co-host, who still appears on the program frequently; Janis McDonald, host of ACTS' new exercise program; Dan Matthews, co-host of "Christian Lifestyle Magazine" and Deborah Tyler, anchor on ACTS' former news program, "What's Happening?"

# "When you don't think you can make it"

By N. Allan Moseley  
Hebrews 12:1-13:25

On July 4, 1952, the water off the Catalina Island was ice-cold, and the fog was heavy. Thirty-four year old Florence Chadwick waded into the water to begin her 21 mile swim to the California coast. If she completed the journey, she would be the first woman ever to swim from Catalina to California. Fifteen hours after she began, she was numb from the cold and still could see nothing but fog ahead. She could not go on, so she asked to be taken out of the water. Her mother and trainer told her that they were near land, but all she saw was fog, so she wanted to get out. When they pulled her out, she was only a half mile from the California coast! Later, when her body began to thaw, she was interviewed by



Moseley

## BIBLE BOOK

reporters, to whom she said, "If I could have seen the land, I might have made it." ("Bits and Pieces," Vol. D, No. 2A, p. 18.)

The freezing waters of persecution and difficulty were chilling the Hebrew Christians to the bone, and some of them apparently wanted out. Their arms were weary with the struggle, but the writer of Hebrews urges them to look at what is ahead and continue to "run with patience the race that is set before us" (12:1). He invited them to look at three motivating realities in the Christian life.

First, Christians are exhorted to look around at the saints who watch us. The faithful mentioned in Chapter 11 and the Christians living today are our spectators. All of us want to put our best foot forward when a crowd is watching; we do not want to be embarrassed. The author has touched a nerve that is a powerful motivator in what others think of us. We are

"compassed about" with a "great cloud" of witnesses, so we must keep running and not lose heart.

Second, Christians are told to look up at the Savior who went before us. Every disciple of Jesus wants to be like him, and "looking unto Jesus" reminds us that he "endured the cross" — he never quit. He is our example, "the author and finisher of our faith." Paul wrote, "Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus" (Phil. 2:5). In other words, we are to think as he thought, and therefore act as he acted. The suffering of the recipients of Hebrews had not yet reached the point of shed blood (12:4), so they certainly had not yet fully followed the example of Jesus, who was killed. When we look at him, our suffering is put into perspective. When we see his endurance, we are motivated to endure.

Third, Christians are to look ahead at the satisfaction which we will win. Jesus endured the cross "for the joy that was set before him." It was not the process of suffering but the result

that brought joy, and it is the joyful reward to which we are to look. If we see the beautiful shore of the land Christ has prepared for us, then we can make it. The New Testament teaches that, "We suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together" (Rom. 8:17). Look ahead to the reward! But how can we see that heavenly shore? Faith is the bridge that connects the tumultuous waters of Christian living to the reality of our heavenly reward.

A friend's father died, and he said, "If I could only see him once more to hear him say that everything is all right." His wife wisely answered, "Then what would be the need of your faith?" Sometimes life is an endurance race, including the sweat and fatigue. We can finish if we can see the saints around us, the Savior above us, and the prize before us. Faith is the telescope that penetrates the fog of uncertainty and allows us to see those realities that will strengthen our spirits for the last half mile.

Moseley is pastor, First Church, Durham, N.C. (formerly of Bayou View, Gulfport.)

## Taking the long look: "the future has a future"

By Wayne Campbell  
Jeremiah 32

There's an old story of a man who had been sentenced to death by the king. The subject begged for a reprieve and told the king that if his life were spared he would teach the king's horse to fly by the end of the year. His offer was accepted, and the sentence was suspended. Later, the man explained to his friends, "Within a year, the king may die, or I may die, or the horse may die. Furthermore, who knows? Maybe the horse will learn to fly."

When the future appears grim, where are God's people to look for hope? When the judgment that Jeremiah had foretold had finally come and the city was under Babylonian siege, Jeremiah was imprisoned in the court of King Zedekiah. Although Jeremiah's words had come true, there's no gloating on his part. He would have preferred



Campbell

## LIFE AND WORK

that the people had believed God's warning and had repented. Now their options were gone. Only judgment remained, and it was knocking at the city walls.

Yet into this dismal scene came another word from the Lord. This word was not a message of doom, but an instruction about a business deal! Hanamel, a cousin of the prophet's, was coming to offer Jeremiah a piece of property in the region of Anathoth, north of Jerusalem. Likely that area was already occupied by the Babylonians, and Hanamel thought it expedient to liquidate the property while he could. Regardless of what his motives may have been, God used the occasion to convey a message to his prophet and, through him, to Jerusalem. As Hanamel's cousin, Jeremiah had the right to purchase the property if he chose to do so. Yet an objective appraisal of the situation would discourage investing in such a deal. But it was

through this offer that God gave to Jeremiah a word of hope that looked beyond the immediate future.

At the same time, Jeremiah was given opportunity to demonstrate before the people his personal commitment to the promises of God. In other words, Jeremiah faced a challenge to put his money where his mouth was. For God was declaring that beyond the devastation of the Babylonian conquest and the exile, there was a day of restoration. Jeremiah's purchase of the property, signed, sealed, witnessed, and preserved, would bear testimony of his faith in God's promise that "houses and fields and vineyards shall again be bought in this land."

As Jeremiah carried out the transaction, he explained to his secretary, Baruch, and the witnesses the significance of his actions. Thus by both verbal and visual testimony, the prophet had once again staked his future on the Word of the Lord.

Sadly, the faith that shouts and sings in the citadel of the saints, sometimes slinks fearfully away when met by the harsh demands of the

business world. It is one thing to sit in our Sunday School class and affirm our commitment to his Word and his Lordship, but quite another matter to live by his Word in face of unfavorable circumstance. The faith that passes that test must look beyond the visible future, trusting the Lord to whom past, present, and future are as one.

Are such people as Jeremiah never bothered by doubts such as sometimes plague you and me? Jeremiah's prayer, recorded in verses 16 through 25, shows us the prophet's need for reassurance even after the transaction had been made. The essence of his plea seems to be, "Lord, how do I reconcile what you say with what I see?" And God's response indicates, "You don't have to. For there is no inconsistency between what I say and what I see."

Beyond the future I can foresee is the future God alone can see. Despite the questions in our own minds or others', faith stands upon — and walks by — God's promises. From his viewpoint, the future always has a future.

Campbell is pastor, Chunky Church, Chunky.

## Faith in God brings forth fruit

By Tommy Vinson  
I John 5:1-15

When Sir James Simpson, the discoverer of chloroform, was on his deathbed, a friend asked him, "Sir, what are your speculations?"

Simpson replied, "Speculations! I have no speculations! For I know whom I have believed and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day." It is that kind of assurance for which our hearts hunger. Our text says it is possible to know for certain that we have eternal life (vs. 13).



Vinson

John is always careful to tell us exactly why he is writing. He writes to overcome a lack of joy in the church. (1:4) He writes to expose a wrong attitude toward sin in the fellowship (2:2). He writes to encourage those who lack assurance (5:13). It seems obvious, then, that the early church was faced with three basic problems: lack of joy, wrong attitudes toward sin, and lack of assurance among the saved. Our focal passage for this week focuses on this third problem.

Several years ago I heard Ron Dunn describe John's first epistle as a spiritual lie detector. Over and over again we read the phrase, "if we say" (1:6), "if we confess" (1:8), "if we say" (1:9). John is concerned with people who are professing to be Christians. The Word of God automatically assumes that if we say something, we can give positive evidence that what we say is true. John says, in essence, I want to put your testimony under the microscope and "test your testimony". He wants to trap us into the spiritual polygraph,

## UNIFORM

so that others will be able to determine whether or not we are telling the truth.

John presents three tests whereby we can tell if we are saved. First, there is the test of Christian brotherhood (5:1, 2a; cf 3:10-16). One of the first things that happens when a person becomes a Christian is that he spontaneously learns to love other Christians (I Thes. 4:9). I would agree with C. H. Dodd who wrote "There is no real religious experience which does not express itself in love." Let me ask you a simple question, whom are you more at home with, those who are singing praises or those who are cursing? The carnal crowd or the committed Christian crowd? It was said of the early disciples in the Book of Acts on one occasion, "On being let go, they went to their own." Where do you go when you are let go?

Next, there is the test of changed behavior (5:2b-4; cf. 2:3-6). The implication here is that if a man has the life of God living in him, it will be expressed through his behavior; or else he is lying. John is not saying that we are saved by our behavior, but he is saying that we are saved by a belief that behaves. John evidently was familiar with someone who had previously stood to give testimony, but whose life was devoid of any genuine fruit. To John, salvation was more than just a 30 second experience. It was an initial experience with an additional and continuing results. This doesn't mean that a saved person never sins, but it means he has a different attitude toward sin. The unbeliever leaps into sin and loves it, while the Christian may lapse into sin and loathe it.

Thirdly, there is the test of current belief

(5:5-15). In 1789, Benjamin Franklin wrote "Nothing is certain but death and taxes." John would disagree with Franklin's statement. In fact, he uses the word "know" 39 times in this brief epistle, and eight times in this closing chapter. You will notice that every one of these tests is in the present tense. John doesn't say "he that kept his commandments," but "he that keepeth his commandments" (2:3). He doesn't say "he that used to love the brethren", but "he

## Adams Association's resolution shows disapproval of riverboat gambling

Adams Association at its spring meeting April 23 at Stanton Church, Natchez, adopted the following resolution concerning gambling on riverboats:

"WHEREAS, since riverboat gambling has become law and is now legal in Adams County, and

"WHEREAS, gambling is known to attract organized crime; and

"WHEREAS, it is morally wrong, it destroys families, destroys the worth of a person; and

"WHEREAS, the biblical view of work and property affords no room for the practice of gambling; and

"WHEREAS, gambling violates the biblical principles of stewardship, with regard to property and its uses; and

"WHEREAS, the biblical teaching urges that the individual both guard and wisely use his influence as we are enjoined to "abstain from all appearance of evil" (I Thess. 5:22; Romans 12:9) and to work energetically for every form of goodness; and

"WHEREAS, we commend those churches who have already gone on record to oppose gambling in any form;

"Be it therefore RESOLVED, that the Adams Baptist Association in their spring semi-annual session, April 23, 1990, meeting at Stanton Baptist Church, declare their opposition to all forms of gambling; and

"Be it further RESOLVED, that as soon as the law can be interpreted as to the number of qualified electors and the number of days to gain a petition, we will actively engage in a campaign to call for a referendum; and

"Be it finally RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be sent to The Baptist Record, The Natchez Democrat, and other local publications."

# Brotherhood OKs budget

**MEMPHIS, Tenn. (BP)** — Southern Baptist Brotherhood Commission trustees adopted a \$3.39 million budget for 1990-91 and created two new staff positions when they convened April 20-21 in Memphis, Tenn.

The new budget proposal represents an increase of 8.3 percent over the current Brotherhood budget. It was adopted on the heels of a positive financial report.

Commissioners were told that receipts for the first six months of the current fiscal year were \$116,873.18 over budget. Expenses during the same period had been held \$38,618.24 under budget.

Commission President James H. Smith pronounced the commission's financial condition "very healthy."

"Our income is keeping up with anticipations, and we are largely holding expenditures in line with the budget," he said. "It appears we will be right on target with our budget at the end of the year."

During their two-day meeting, commissioners also created the staff positions: a production assistant for the graphic services department and a non-dated curriculum editor in the adult division. The graphic services position will facilitate production of backlogged materials that have been

delayed by an increasing number of new projects. The new curriculum editor will concentrate on developing materials related to marketplace ministry. Fifteen people were approved as the first recipients of the Award of Merit of the International Legion of Royal Ambassador leaders.

People who were nominated by state and national Brotherhood leaders and recommended by the legion's advisory board were selected for their "dedicated service in the task of bringing young men and boys to God through Christ by fostering programs of missions education and mission action, with a special emphasis upon personal involvement." Names of recipients will be released at a later date.

In other action, trustees:

Reviewed format changes in store for three commission publications that previously were published as separate editions of *World Mission Journal*.

The names of the three periodicals were changed to *Challenge*, for High School Baptist Young Men; *Journey*, for Baptist Young Men; and *Missions Today*, for Baptist men. In October, the publication will move from tabloid newspaper format to 24-page magazine format. Content in each of

the periodicals will be tailored more closely to fit the interests and needs of its audience.

Voted to increase to \$1,000 the amount of scholarship they award annually to the winner of the national High School Baptist Young Men Speak Out competition. Trustees fund that scholarship from personal contributions.

Adopted changes in the bylaws of the National Fellowship of Baptist Men. A requirement regarding the number of pastors serving on the fellowship's general council was removed, and the organization's officers were restructured to eliminate regional and honorary vice presidential positions and replace them with a single vice president.

These changes will be voted on by the fellowship's members during that group's triennial meeting Oct. 26-27, 1990, at First Church in Memphis.

Posthumous appreciation was expressed for commissioner Stan Riehn of Oak Ridge, Mo., who died in November 1989 after two years of service on the board. Riehn's wife, Phyllis, accepted the resolution of appreciation on her late husband's behalf.

## Surgery gives Dilday "new vision"

**FORT WORTH, Texas (BP)** — Triple-bypass surgery has given Southwestern Seminary President Russell Dilday a "renewed vision" of theological education's task in Southern Baptist life.



Dilday

Dilday, who returned to his duties at the Fort Worth, Texas seminary on a limited schedule April 23, said the surgery and recovery that followed have "made me more excited about the seminary than ever before. I think we'll be able to come through our struggles in a more positive way and be more effective in the future."

Dilday, 59, underwent surgery March 28 to relieve blockage of three cardiac arteries leading to his heart. He anticipates being back at "110 percent before the fall semester," which begins in August.

The experience of the past month

has given him time to reflect on theological education in the Southern Baptist Convention. Those reflections "call you back to the basic task," he said. "As I watched those skilled physicians, I was reminded again how important it is for ministers to be equipped, too."

"That brings you back to the basic urgency of spreading the gospel and gives you a sense of excitement."

That excitement was even greater, Dilday said, when he thought of Southwestern Seminary's role. "Southwestern is a major player in this effort because of the sheer number of students" he explained.

In addition to his broader reflections, the leader of the world's largest seminary said he also gave time to spiritual renewal and his family.

He was drawn closer to his wife, Betty, and their three children and spouses, Dilday said. During his recovery at home, Dilday spent time reading, writing, and studying, using a Bible study program on his computer.

He also continued writing on a book

with his wife, to be published later this year. The book, according to Dilday, is for "young Timothies and their mates." It is a collection of sermons he has preached to seminary students during his 12 years as president of Southwestern.

One of the lessons Dilday is passing on to young ministers is to begin at an early age exercising and managing stress. "The ministry is a very stressful occupation," he said. "But there are ways to learn to deal with stress."

And while the surgery has given Dilday time to reflect, it also has given him an "unusual awareness of the heart's beating. It's caused me to think back on that one organ and God's wisdom in creating something that beats day-to-day, year-to-year."

Dilday's doctors have given him a good report, he said, referring to his recovery as "unusually rapid and strong." An examination of his heart during the surgery revealed it to be in "great condition," Dilday said.

## Democratic reforms will not bring religious freedom to Hindu Nepal, says Nepali pastor

**KATMANDU, Nepal (EP)** — Nepali King Birendra Bir Bikram Shah Dev agreed recently to institute a multi-party system and free elections within the year, but Christians in the country are uncertain about their future in the Hindu nation or whether democratic reforms will help them.

"People in the Western democracies need to know that in Nepal, democracy does not mean religious freedom," said Charles Mendies, a Nepali pastor, through his wife. Mendies, 34, and the father of three, is currently in prison serving a six-year sentence for sharing his Christian

faith with a Hindu man.

More than 200 Christians are in prison or await litigation and sentencing for their "crimes" involving Christian activities, according to a news report from the Ed Steele Agency. Nepal law makes it a crime punishable by a year in prison to convert from Hinduism, and an automatic six-year sentence for sharing one's faith with a Hindu.

Mendies has been imprisoned or arrested five times in the last 10 years for spreading the Christian faith in Nepal. He is a leader in Nepal's fast-growing Christian community. He has

been the principle target of the king's efforts to prevent the spread of Christianity, according to the Steele agency. King Birendra, according to Hindu tradition, is believed to be an incarnation of the Hindu god Vishnu; he is the latest monarch in a dynasty of Hindu Guru/Rulers which dates from the middle of the eighteenth century.

At least one U.S.-based Christian relief agency is urging the U.S. government to halt aid to Nepal until government leaders agree to institute reforms that will lead to human rights liberties. Fred Johnson, executive director of Project Freedom, a Chris-



## Book reviews

**THE GOOD HEART BOOK** by David E. Driver (Noble Press, Inc., 213 W. Institute Place, Suite 508, Chicago, Ill. 60610, 290 pp., \$18.95)

Though the title sounds like it, this is not a health book on how to take care of the heart. It is a guide to volunteering, in which the author declares volunteering to be good for your health. He quotes Ralph Waldo Emerson: "It is one of the most beautiful compensations in life that no man can truly help another without helping himself." Helping others can reduce stress, he maintains.

Driver, who grew up poor and black on public aid on Chicago's West Side, was himself a recipient of volunteering and so knows first-hand of its benefits.

By the time he was 26, he had an MBA from University of Chicago and was a vice president in the futures market at Merrill Lynch, earning "in the high six figures." He lived in a high-rise apartment and owned a sailboat and a Mercedes; but with all the success, he says, he still felt an emptiness. He began volunteering — worked as a tutor in inner-city schools, as a volunteer at a mission for the homeless, in a drug rehab program for boys, and in other ways.

In 1988, he quit his high-paying job to establish Noble Press, which will publish books on social issues and on the environment. Its first product is Driver's first book, *The Good Heart Book*.

Part I provides a step-by-step plan for getting involved in volunteering. The author answers such questions as "Which volunteer organization should I join?" "What will be expected of me?" "Whom do I contact?" "How do I fit volunteering into my busy lifestyle?" Lots of volunteers start out with good intentions, and soon quit. Driver said you ought to volunteer to

do something you like to do, and for what you do best. Then you won't be as apt to give it up quickly. He gives examples of volunteer things you can do if you are an aspiring actor, an artist, an avid reader, a good listener, a computer genius, a Mr. Fixit, a night owl, a private eye hopeful, a race car driver, talkative, etc.

Part II focuses on particular social problems, such as homelessness, battered women, inner city poverty, AIDS, teenagers in crisis, illiteracy, abused children, the elderly, and people with disabilities. A chapter on each of these areas describes the problem, tells what is being done to alleviate it, and how volunteers can best help.

Part III is a directory of human care organizations, both local and nationwide.

Though some church programs are included in the listing, those of Southern Baptists are not mentioned. In 1989, the Foreign Mission Board, SBC reported 10,287 volunteers. Besides that, many, many more volunteered for short-term service to others through the Home Mission Board, SBC, and through local churches.

Since Baptists then are, without doubt, interested in volunteering through their churches and in their communities, this is a book that Baptist Record readers will surely find interesting to read, and valuable as a resource book.

As the author points out, "In Christianity, the life of Jesus Christ is the greatest example of charity . . . His teachings stress loving our neighbor and helping others in need."

(The Noble Press is offering a 20 percent discount, plus \$1 shipping charges, to readers who order *The Good Heart Book* directly from the publisher at 1-800-486-7737.) — AWM

## Estonians unveil new mag

**TALLINN, ESTONIA (EBPS)** — Estonian Baptists are determined to reach the young for Christ. Their colorful publication, *Paiksekiir*, "Sunbeam," is now in its second year. The layout and design of the January-February, 1990 issue of Sunbeam were carefully chosen to attract its target readership, children between the ages of seven and 12 years. The large print and A-4 paper size are likewise elements which contribute to its success among the children of Estonia's 80 churches and groups, according to Ingmar Kurg, the editor. "We want the children to feel like it's

their journal," said Ingmar Kurg, editor.

The January issue carried Bible stories and information of interest to readers. A Bible crossword puzzle and colorful designs by children enliven its pages.

Some 8000 copies of the children's journal are printed and distributed among the churches.

Baptist Record  
5-17  
291  
HISTORICAL \$0.00  
SUITE 401  
SOUTHERN BAPTIST COMMERCE ST  
901 NASHVILLE TN 37203

May 17, 1990

Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205